

# THE NONCONFORMIST.

*"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."*

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## CONTENTS.

ECCLESIASTICAL:—	
The Anti-state-church Conference of 1844 ..	317
IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT:—	
Masters and Servants bill	
—Factories bill—The Bank Charter — The Dissenters' Chapels bill	318
COMPLETE SUFFRAGE:—	
Annual Meeting at Birmingham, &c.....	320
FOREIGN NEWS:—	
China, India, France, Spain, Greece, and Miscellaneous .....	321
IRELAND .....	322
SCOTLAND .....	322
POSTSCRIPT .....	323

POLITICAL ARTICLES:—	
Summary.....	324
Proposed Banking Reform .....	324
Parliamentary Interference with Labour ..	325
The Worm for the Gourd ..	325
METROPOLITAN .....	325
The British and Foreign School Society, &c. ..	326
PROVINCIAL:—	
The Educational Movement, &c.....	326
RELIGIOUS:—	
The Sunday School Union Annual Meeting .....	328
MARRIAGES AND DEATHS ..	330
TRADE AND COMMERCE ..	331
ADVERTISEMENTS .....	331

too little confident in the inherent energy of truth; and some few from causes which we will not deign to mention—set their faces as a flint against this project. If authority could have crushed it in the bud, assuredly it would have been crushed. And yet how stands the fact? The movement, which on its first appearance most men laughed at as ridiculous, grew, spite of all the obloquy which its birth had evoked. A silent press could not starve it into helplessness. Official anathemas could not frighten it into impotence. Ministerial chidings failed to arrest its budding vitality. From the first moment of its birth it began to develop an amount of vigour which opposition served rather to increase than to subdue; and whereas its enemies predicted its entire failure, it outran the most forward anticipations of its best friends. Upwards of six hundred delegates met together to proclaim that the old *régime* has for ever terminated.

Then again, it behoves us to note the solemn earnestness of the movement. No description can do justice to this feature of the Conference. It was everywhere upon the surface—it came out in every variety, of hue, and aspect. It might be seen in little differences of opinion, as well as in substantial agreements. It appeared not only in what was said, but also in what was *not* said. It showed itself in the fulness and firmness of the resolutions passed—it displayed itself almost equally in the singular abstinence from unkind reflections upon others religiously observed. The collected energy of the speakers indicated its presence—but certainly not more than the patient and rapt attention of the auditors. The attendance at each sitting was not only full, but punctual. Those minor misunderstandings which, in such assemblies, are inevitable, were set right without the smallest difficulty, and served but as light pencilings of shade, to throw into more striking relief the oneness of heart which pervaded the whole body. It was evident that the men gathered together in that Conference were, for the most part, men soberly in earnest; it was not less so, that they were not to be misled. They had come from all parts of the United Kingdom to accomplish a great work, and all considerations gave place to their determination to achieve it.

Now must we leave out of sight the wonderful unanimity of the Conference. It was like the law of gravitation as seen in the course of some mighty river. The waters are deep and abundant, the ultimate confluence of numerous tributaries. Onward they roll in one and the same direction usually in tranquil majesty—and if, in passing through some narrow strait, or in sweeping round some projecting headland, the rush is momentarily increased, and spray and foam call up ideas of turbulence, it is yet certain that as every particle is hastening to the same destination, so, even in the most confined channels, although here and there fragments of earth may be carried away, no ultimate separation of the waters needs be apprehended. We ask any candid man to look at the numerous, and, in several instances, the lengthy resolutions, and the detailed scheme of organisation, adopted by the Conference, and to witness the passage through these straits, if so we may call them, of so vast a volume, and so powerful a tide, of mind, and then to pronounce whether the unanimity of decision arrived at, was not a wonderful phenomenon—a phenomenon which, taken by itself, apart from every other by which it happens to have been surrounded, stamps the Conference with the approbation of Heaven.

And now, at length, our hearts beat high with expectation, that ere long, the dissenting community will occupy its proper position in relation to state churches. The vanguard have already taken possession of the heights—and this having been done, the main body will be encouraged to follow. Nothing but gross mismanagement can now prevent the movement commenced last week from becoming a general one. Our fears for it are now over—our watchfulness over it will never cease. Sure we are that when the full records of the Conference of 1844 are placed before the religious public, opinion and feeling on this subject will undergo a rapid and all-important change. Yes! we are getting right at last—getting upon the broad and immovable basis of truth. Let nonconformity but once make good that advance, and there is no power on earth which can hinder its ultimate triumph. Consistent and earnest dissent will speedily trample underfoot the last shreds of state-churchism. The

lie cannot long exist in a relation of successful antagonism to the truth. Dagon must fall when the ark comes into his temple.

**THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.**—We cannot at present enter more fully on the subject, than to say that the aspect of the meeting was most impressive, and that its unity of purpose, its evident desire to carry out a great principle without allowing differences or other subjects to interfere, and the strict propriety of the means to which alone it is proposed to resort, give it a dignity and weight far exceeding any that it could acquire from the celebrity of individual names connected with, and promise a success beyond the most sanguine expectations previously entertained by its friends. \* \* \* We give the men who assembled on this remarkable occasion the fullest credit for desiring to secure equal religious liberty to all, whether Christians or not, or of whatsoever Christian sect—for desiring that all should be equally free, and that each should supply its own wants without any state patronage or support. If the question were at all, *which* sect should enjoy the predominance, we should say, "Let us alone—let us remain as we are." We do not expect that any sectarian rule will be more moderate than that of the existing church, and we should be sorry to cause the evils of change, with the unavoidable loss and pain it must cause to individuals, with no better object than to give to others what is taken from some: but we are confident that it is a great mistake to suppose that there must of necessity be a predominant sect, and we do not believe that any of the opponents of the established church have the remotest desire to occupy its place. A controversy must arise—the church will be put upon its defence, and doubtless some bitter feeling will be called forth, possibly on both sides; but the intention is to make the question purely one of principle, to avoid irritation as much as possible, and to rely on communicating knowledge, or awakening conscience, not on violence or passion. We trust that the high position assumed by the Conference will be carefully maintained by the society which has arisen out of it, and that the proceedings which have now taken place are the commencement of a new era in the religious history of our country.—*Inquirer*.

**THE STAFFORDSHIRE CONGREGATIONAL UNION AND THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.**—At the annual meeting, held during the past week, the following resolution was passed:—"That this association, regarding all state establishments of religion as opposed to the genius of scriptural Christianity, and exceedingly injurious to the spiritual interests of mankind, is thankful that, during the last few years, this important subject has received a greater degree of attention than it ever previously did; and earnestly hopes that the Anti-state-church Conference may lead to extensive, persevering, and well-sustained efforts to enlighten the public in general, and true Christians in particular, with relation to the spiritual nature of the kingdom of Christ, and the tremendous evils that result from legislative interference with the affairs of religion."

**MORE CHURCH-RATE SEIZURES, LEICESTER.**—During the present week warrants of distress for church-rates have been enforced in the parish of Knighton, near this town, upon Mr Alfred Burgess, of Brookfield house, Mr C. B. Robinson, of the Shrubberies, and Mr Joseph Cripps, of Eastfield house. From Mr Burgess, for four years' rates, a quantity of plate was taken, amounting to nearly £5; four sheep were seized from Mr Robinson's field to satisfy a demand of 45s.: and to pay a rate of 6s. 6d. the servants of the church abstracted from Mr Cripps's kitchen four large hams weighing more than ninety pounds, a new oak table which cost 22s. and three damaskable cloths, the whole being of the value of £125 to £15. It might be thought that such a wanton outrage upon property as has been perpetrated in the last of these cases, more especially when it is inflicted from the seat of justice, but these things are done for the church, and the end sanctifies the means.—*Leicester Mercury*.

**MR H. E. HEAD.**—The suspended rector of Feniton, driven forth from his parish by the Bishop of Exeter, has addressed a letter from Switzerland to R. B. Sanderson, Esq., of West Jesmond, which appears in the May number of the *Anti-Monopolist*. We copy it, in part, into our columns:—

**MY DEAR SIR**—Many thanks for the *Gateshead Observer*. I was extremely glad to see your proceedings in that respectable newspaper. In about a week we propose to go to Lausanne, where we expect to be until the first of May; after which we hardly know where we shall be.

You will have seen the cases of Mr Marsh and Mr Thomas. These cases should be viewed in juxtaposition with mine. Mr Marsh amuses himself in London and Paris. I stay at my post, and study the Bible. Mr Marsh's offence is, his intimacy with profligate women. My offence is, that I write a pamphlet concerning the confirmation service. Mr Thomas's offence is, that he

seduces a young woman to a life of misery. My offence is, that I labour to show the poor people the principles of the gospel. Mr Marsh and Mr Thomas are untouched by the prelates; and Mr Marsh remains in possession of the church revenues procured for him by his father the bishop. I, on the contrary, am fiercely hunted by the prelate of my diocese; deprived of my property for three years; burdened with an additional fine in the shape of law expenses; threatened with imprisonment for life; and turned out of my house, and sent with my wife and daughter to die of starvation, for anything that their lordships the prelates know or care.

Thus, you see, in prelatical estimation, it is a baser thing to criticise the Catechism than to seduce a young female. According to prelatical proceedings, to pass one's time in contending earnestly for the genuine truths of Christianity, is a worse offence than to pass it among the prostitutes of Paris.

Believe me, my dear sir,  
Yours, most sincerely,  
Berne, March 26, 1844. H. E. HEAD.

GLASGOW THEOLOGICAL ACADEMY.—We understand that a committee, which was appointed at the late annual meeting of the Glasgow Theological Academy, sat during Tuesday and Wednesday of the present week, and entered on a protracted consideration of the erroneous views held by some of the students. The errors held, so far as we can learn, are the denial of any special influence of the Holy Spirit in the conversion of sinners, and the denial of the doctrine of personal and unconditional election. For the maintenance of these sentiments nine students have been dismissed from the institution.—*Glasgow Examiner.*

### Imperial Parliament.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Coffee, for reduction of duty on, 2.  
Commons Enclosure bill, against, 5.  
Corn laws, against alteration of, 112.  
for repeal of, 1.  
Cotton, for repeal of duty on, 1.  
Dissenters Chapels bill, against, 3.  
Factories, for restricting hours of labour, 36.  
Against ditto, 5.  
Local Courts, for establishment of, 3.  
Marriages (Ireland), for declaring valid, 116.  
Masters and Servants bill, against, 107.  
Maynooth College, against grant to, 3.  
Poor Law Amendment act, against, 26.  
Redress of Grievances, for, 1.  
St Asaph and Bangor dioceses, against union of, 35.  
Tea, for reduction of duty on, 1.  
Tobacco, for reduction of duty on, 1.  
Universal suffrage, for, 3.

##### BILL READ A FIRST TIME.

Exchequer Bills bill.

##### BILL READ A SECOND TIME.

Exchequer Bills bill.

##### CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Vinegar Duties bill.  
Stamp Duties bill.  
Exchequer Bills bill.  
Factories (No. 2) bill.  
Customs Duties act.

##### DEBATES.

Wednesday, May 1st.

##### MASTERS AND SERVANTS BILL.

On the motion of Mr P. HOWARD, that the Speaker do now leave the chair,

Mr T. DUNCOMBE said, that as far as lay in his power, he would endeavour to defeat the bill, and there was no form of the House which he would not use as a weapon for that purpose, as the bill was one of the most insidious, oppressive, and tyrannical that a ministry could attempt to carry through [a laugh]. It was said that the operation of the bill would not extend to factory-people; but in fact, it would affect the factory-labourer, who, if he did not go to work at a certain hour in the morning, might, on the oath of a foreman, be sentenced for two months to the House of Correction and the treadmill! The bill gave the servant no protection if the master should misbehave himself—the master was not to be sent to prison. Was not that making one law for the rich and another for the poor? The hon. member concluded by moving, that the House go into committee on the bill that day six months.

Mr HUME suggested that the bill should be referred to a committee up-stairs, in order to afford the House an opportunity of hearing the evidence of the working-classes with respect to the measure. He thought that the bill, as it now stood, would give rise to great irritation among the operatives.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM contended that the bill would promote the interests of all the parties whom it would affect.

By the existing law, on any master complaining of the misconduct or misbehaviour of a servant, it is in the power of one justice of the peace to issue a warrant for his apprehension, and to sentence him to three months' hard labour. On the other hand, if a servant makes a complaint against his master, no warrant can be issued against the master, but only a summons; and if the justice of the peace is satisfied that the master has misconducted himself, he has no power to imprison, or to award the wages due to the servant. The servant has, therefore, according to the existing law, no remedy against the master in case he should misbehave or misconduct himself. It was the object of the bill to remove that inequality.

The bill was defended by Mr MILES; who said that the question whether the master should be made liable to imprisonment, equally with the servant, might also be considered in committee. It was also supported by Mr GALLY KNIGHT; and, with some qualification, by Mr R. PALMER, whose name was subscribed on the back. The amendment was adopted by Mr GRAINGER, Mr BERNAL, Mr

ESCOTT, Mr PHILIP HOWARD, and Mr COLLETT. On a division, the amendment was carried by 97 to 54. Consequently, the bill was thrown out.

Thursday, May 2nd.

##### SAVINGS BANKS.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to savings banks, and to the purchase of government annuities through the medium of savings banks. The comparatively high rate of interest given by savings banks, acted as an inducement to capitalists to deposit money in these institutions, and thus avail themselves of benefits intended for the humbler classes. He proposed to reduce the rate of interest from 2½d. to 2d. per cent. per diem; to reduce the amount which can be annually deposited from £30, its present limit, to £20; to confine the amount of individual deposits to £120, instead of £200, as at present; when deposits and interest amount to £150, all further interest to cease; and stricter regulations to be introduced in matter of trusteeship, by which parties investing in the names of others will be required to produce the signatures of all concerned in payments and withdrawals.

Mr GIBSON asked if any provision would be made against the fraudulent deposit of sums, by the same individuals, in different savings banks?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had made such a provision in the contemplated bill.

After some further discussion, leave was given to introduce the bill.

Friday, May 3rd.

##### FACTORIES BILL.

On the order of the day for going into committee on the Factory bill,

Mr ROEBUCK rose to move a resolution:—

"That it is the opinion of this House, that no interference with the power of adult labourers in factories, to make contracts respecting the hours for which they shall be employed, be sanctioned by this House."

He might be accused of being "hard-hearted," and "cold-blooded," but he had as great a sympathy with the working classes as any of their pretended friends, who, with all their gratuitous humanity, would not go so far as he was disposed to do, to give to these classes the power of speaking and legislating for themselves. It was not enough for Lord Ashley to produce a mass of crude, undigested evidence, showing that an evil existed; he must go further, and prove that his plan was the remedy for it. But it was not enough to show the evil; it was necessary to show, moreover, that the proposed measure was a remedy for it. In order to show that, it ought first to be made out that a factory labourer was placed in some peculiar circumstances, distinguishing his case from that of other labourers. Now, the factory labourer was not worse than others; on the contrary, he was better paid. Nor was he more hardly worked. Contrast the girl in the factory with the servant of all-work in the towns; or the factory workman with the agricultural labourer; and it would be found that factory employment had the advantage in pay, in moderation of toil, in clothing, and in lodging. There was another peculiarity of the factory labourers—that they were congregated in masses, which gave them a certain power of self-protection. It was easy to procure individual cases of horror, but those cases should be shown to be the result of the system condemned. The noble lord's *ad capitandum* argument was the hard usage of women; but was a woman's condition worse in factory labour than in labour of any other kind? There was a strong anti-manufacturing sentiment in that house; but he would contrast the thinking manufacturer, the man of business, with the Nimrods of the landed interest, the men who expended their excitement and their fortune upon a fox-chase. The greatness of the country was owing to her manufactures; thence came her fleets covering every ocean, and her flags floating on every breeze. The hatred of the manufacturers, mixed with the desire of putting the minister into an awkward position, had gone a great way to make up the majority for a ten hours clause. But these whigs, who had been twelve years in office—what new light had suddenly broken in upon them to satisfy their minds that they had all that time been wrong, and to lead them now into an opposite vote?

I must confess that on this occasion I am peculiarly sceptical, inasmuch as I find their interest is actually fitted and dovetailed to the peculiar circumstances of the time. An opportunity offered for creating a division, and it was seized upon [hear, hear]. I do not deny that there are those who really believe the interference of legislature would be beneficial. I am not quarreling with such parties, but I do quarrel with those who have been actuated by the base motive of throwing a torch into their enemy's camp, whether it may come from the agriculturists on the other side, or the *ex-officis* on this [hear, hear].

If a ten-hours *maximum* were established, production must be less. Then, as the master's capital would still remain the same, it was clear that one of three things must follow—a rise of prices, a fall of profits, or a fall of wages. A rise of prices was rendered impossible by the closeness of foreign competition. As to profits, they were too low already; that was proved by the fact of our lending our money to such borrowers as the Americans; and a restriction in the hours of labour would only force the manufacturer yearly to dismiss more and more of his labourers. There was but one way for him to avoid that: the third resource, the lowering of wages. That was the result into which you were deluding the unhappy labourers, by your promise of abridging their toil. He wished to free the working man from the heavy weight of Lord Ashley's humanity; and he expressed his regret and surprise that Sir James Graham should have meddled at all with the question of interference. It was the duty of the Home

Secretary to settle the principles on which they proposed to legislate, not to halt between two opinions.

After a pause, Sir J. GRAHAM rose. He had expected that some advocate for the ten-hours clause would have followed Mr Roebuck. He would himself avoid the exasperating language which had been used by that honourable member, on a subject with respect to which there existed already but too much excitement. The general arguments of Mr Roebuck on this subject had been advanced and weighed when the act of 1833 was before the House. The principle of this bill, like that of the act of 1833, was to regulate the labour of children and young persons, and to avoid general interference with the labour of adults.

He (Sir J. Graham) must now remark that the legislature of this country had deliberately come to the conclusion that twelve hours out of the twenty-four was quite a sufficient period of labour. He had directed inquiry to be made on the point, and Mr Horner had reported that in nine factories there were 697 males employed, and 3,576 females, which was nearly 70 per cent.; and of these nearly 17 per cent. were married women. It had been asked by the hon. and learned gentleman whether the parties interested were able to judge for themselves—were they able to judge and decide for themselves? and the hon. and learned gentleman said they were not. The question, then, returned to this—was there not something peculiar in the condition of female adults?

He admitted, however, that the incidental effect of a limitation upon the labour of children and young persons was to limit also the labour of adults, because after the hour when the labour of the children and young persons ceased the machinery could scarcely be kept at work. He confessed, too, that even to the extent to which this bill proposed to go, there was some infraction of the general principle maintained by Mr Roebuck, that adult labour ought never to be interfered with. But he vindicated this partial interference in favour of adult females by the necessity of the special case.

Mr LABOUCHERE had no hesitation in recording his opinion that it was highly dangerous to embark in this course of legislation at all:—

If there were not stronger reasons than had been given by the right hon. gentleman (Sir J. Graham) why the House should agree to adopt his principle, the right hon. gentleman could not expect many converts to his views. It was remarkable how many honourable gentlemen had argued in this way—"We should have been opposed to the principle of interference if it had been now introduced for the first time, but as we have some time ago adopted the principle it does not matter now how far we push it" [hear, hear]. That showed how dangerous it was to move in a false direction on such subjects. He admitted, however, that there was a difference between limiting labour to ten hours and to twelve. He was not of opinion that these were questions of similar importance; but called on as he was to vote on the proposition before the House, he was satisfied that he never in his life gave a vote with a greater degree of certainty that he was voting for a great principle, affecting all classes of the people.

Captain Rous also spoke energetically against the principle of interference, and declared his intention of voting for the amendment.

Mr SHARMAN CRAWFORD advocated the right of the working man to protection.

He maintained that the working man was not a free agent; that he must obey the commands of his master, and that he was not in a condition to say to his employer, "I will work so long and no longer." The House was bound, therefore, to step in and protect the working man and the working woman. Protection was necessary, because there was so overwhelming a pressure on the labour market; whole classes of the labouring poor were thrown on their daily labour without any other means of support.

There was a unanimous feeling on the part of the working population in favour of the ten hours; and he referred to a petition from the operatives of Belfast as a special proof of this.

Mr ROSS gave some explanations, in order to show that at the meeting at which this petition was adopted was not a fair exponent of the opinions of the Belfast operatives.

Lord HOWICK, considering that a general principle was a guiding conclusion, drawn from a multitude of particular observations, expressed his surprise that Sir James Graham should call on them to pass a bill which he confessed contained a violation of principle.

The right hon. baronet told the House that his measure was a violation of principle, not less than the measure of the noble lord; and yet the right hon. baronet told them in the same breath that any violation of principle was dangerous, that when once they broke through principle they knew not where to stop. It did, then, appear most extraordinary that the right hon. baronet should admit the violation of principle to be highly dangerous, and yet plead guilty to the charge of being himself a violator of principle.

For his own part, he thought it involved no such infringement. As far as the wealth of nations was concerned, certain rules might be sound, to which, nevertheless, it might be right that exceptions should be made, for objects of higher importance than national wealth—for the protection and preservation of the people.

As a general rule, the powers of production were best developed by an unlimited freedom of individual exertion. But the object of a paternal government should not be mere accumulation of wealth, but the moral and physical welfare of the people, and, if a too eager pursuit of wealth put to hazard the moral condition of the people and impeded their moral improvement, that pursuit it was the duty of government to moderate. The people should not be allowed to follow the pursuit of wealth to the neglect of still higher objects. There was an important distinction between the accumulation of wealth and the establishment of human happiness.

Two years ago, they had passed, almost by acclamation, Lord Ashley's bill interfering with the labour of women and children in mines and collieries; and if that or any other kind of interference were right on principle, its application would be as fitting



in any other case requiring it. The bill, though a feeble and hesitating commencement, was yet the prelude to this bolder course: in this view, it mattered little whether the twelve or the ten hours were adopted; having established the principle of interference, it would be impossible to draw back. Let them avert the injurious consequences, if these would result, by throwing down all artificial restraints and commercial monopolies, which lay at the bottom of the whole question.

Sir ROBERT PEEL thought it was important that they should understand what was meant by "principles." General rules in legislation were matters of expediency rather than of rigid truth; and in passing a law, the rule should be, to consider if the good which would result from it would more than counterbalance the inconvenience of its enactment. He admitted that the care of national wealth was not the only duty of a government; and freely confessed that the moral and intellectual improvement of the working population had been too much neglected by the legislature. But if you laid down what was called a great general principle, and insisted on its general application, though individual cases of benefit might result, a system of intolerable domestic inquisition would be established, the people would be subjected to the supervision of a whole army of inspectors and sub-inspectors, their whole national character would be changed, and they would be trained to a helpless dependence on what government could do for them. If a limitation to ten hours were followed, as it would be, by increased competition, and a struggle between profits and wages, and a diminution of the comforts of the workmen, the only consequence of this attempt to promote morality by law would be the defeat of their own object. The principles laid down by Lord Howick would justify a compulsory attendance at church.

I am not astonished to hear the noble lord say he will vote for the abolishing of monopolies, and for widening the sphere of labour; but to hear from the noble lord doctrines which would lead to the establishment of inquisition into almost every trade, to hear from him that we are not to content ourselves merely with the abolition of wealth, but that we are to watch over the habits and morals of the people; why, there is not one proposal in former times for compelling the observance of any law which would not be justified by the wide principle he lays down [cheers].

The people had grown up under a system of freedom of action; and the manly habits acquired by it would be entirely changed by interference. In certain cases, where children were deprived of proper parental control, and with married females, they were bound to interfere and protect where necessary; and admitting that the principle of the bill of 1833 was a correct one, the present bill was an improvement of the law. It was true that the interference with adult female labour was an exception, and clearly a departure from principle; but the benefits which would result, would more than counterbalance any inconvenience.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL told an anecdote of Mr Wyndham, who, after making a speech on both sides of the question, turned round to a friend, and asked, "Which way did I say I would vote?" Sir Robert Peel's speech was an able and eloquent argument for the repeal of the act of 1833, rather than a defence of the bill before the House. He believed the result of that act had been beneficial; and in carrying interference further, he would be guided by facts and investigation into actual evils, and the best mode of remedying them. Mr Roebuck had not gone very deeply into the question, had imputed motives to him and his friends, in the course which they had taken in supporting Lord Ashley's motion. The learned member for Bath had better not interfere in this matter.

If he can give any reason why our vote was wrong, and that we were doing a great evil to the country by interfering, let him use his arguments. But it is too much that he should set himself up as not only containing all the wisdom of the House, but all its purity too (cheers and laughter)—that no party possesses purity of motive except him (cheers). I really think, without taking the pains to vindicate myself from his charges, that the hon. and learned member seems to take a station in this house to which perhaps he is hardly entitled [hear, hear].

Though opposed to the amendment, he thought that interference would be confined to persons under twenty-one, and leading gradually to a limitation of ten hours.

Mr WARD was of opinion that the Wyndham story told by Lord John Russell, was as applicable to the noble lord himself as to Sir Robert Peel. The principles laid down by Lord Howick would lead them to lay violent hands on the whole adult population of the kingdom, in order that they may be put under the complete tutelage of the law. He entered into statistical details, in order to show the superior condition of the children and females of the factory population; and expressed his incapacity to comprehend those "great principles" of which they had heard so much.

Lord ASHLEY, who had intended to abstain from all share in this discussion, and to reserve himself for the debate on the limitation of the hours of labor, now came forward, with a variety of documents, in order to substantiate his former statements respecting the condition of the factory population. A formal document, signed by Mr Henry Ashworth, had given a distinct contradiction to his allegations as to the distance traveled by the operative during a day. There was a difference between them; for while Mr Ashworth's calculations were taken from the distance traveled by the spinner, he, Lord Ashley, had given the distance which the piecer had to walk, which was double; and a committee of thirty-four operatives had since confirmed his accuracy. With

this corroborative evidence, which he adduced in considerable detail, he felt justified in affirming that his honour and integrity were vindicated, whatever opinion might be entertained as to the soundness of his judgment.

After a few remarks from Mr CHARLES WOOD, Mr MARK PHILLIPS, and Mr PARKER in support; and from Mr AINSWORTH and Mr FIELDEN against it, the House divided, when there appeared:—

For Mr Roebuck's resolution. . . . . 76  
Against it . . . . . 282  
Majority . . . . . 206

The House then went into committee *pro forma* on the bill, and further proceedings were postponed.

Monday, May 6th.

THE BANK CHARTER.

The House being in committee on the Bank charter,

Sir ROBERT PEEL rose to move a series of resolutions respecting that charter and the banking system of the country. He observed upon the extensive effects which the decision of the House upon the matter of these resolutions must produce throughout all the transactions of society. The act of 1833 had given to the bank a term to expire in 1855, unless, before August, 1844, notice should be given to the bank that parliament meant to deal anew with the subject. The government now proposed that parliament should exercise this power of notification. He was sure the House would address itself to the question without party bias: he would even ask, if it were permitted him to do so, that gentlemen would be content for that night to hear attentively, without expressing any opinion—that they should reserve all observations until they should have taken time to consider the suggestions of government. He adverted to the manifesto put forth by the country bankers; he would not blame them, in a matter affecting their own interests, for having thus solicited the aid of members towards a combined resistance; but he must express his hope that members would deem it their duty to decline that indiscriminate invitation. It would be necessary for him, he said, in the first place, to consider the principle of value; because he feared there was not a universal agreement as to what really constituted the measure of value. First, he would inquire, what was a pound? and what was the engagement to pay a pound? Surely the word "pound" meant something more than an abstraction; in his opinion it meant a certain weight of precious metal of a certain fineness; and the engagement of a maker of a promissory note was to pay on demand a definite amount of that metal and fineness. A real measure of value, in this just sense, had existed till the year 1797, when bank paper became issuable without convertibility into metal. For some years the subject attracted little attention, until the bullion committee of 1810 propounded a sounder theory. That theory, however, was then unsatisfactory to a great part of the public; and a notion became very general that a pound was merely an abstraction. He quoted some of the current definitions of that time, whose vagueness excited a good deal of laughter. Similar inaccuracy of opinion seemed to prevail at this day, if he was to judge from the pamphlets now in circulation, particularly from one lately published at Birmingham. It was said, that the change of times required a new standard of value; but just as reasonably might it be urged, that because population had increased, and the railway system widely extended, the foot measure ought henceforth to contain sixteen inches. The reason why an ounce of gold cost £3 17s. 10d. in silver was, that this is the real proportion of the one metal to the other; and if you meant to give a certain advantage to all debtors you should do so by way of a direct discount, and not say that an ounce of gold, really worth £3 17s. 10d. of silver, shall be worth £5 for the future; for here the dealers in those metals would assuredly defeat you. Some writers had argued that gold was unfit to be a circulating medium, because it was an article of commerce; but that was the reason which in his judgment made it peculiarly fit to be a circulating medium. If any man could controvert his definition of a pound, and of an engagement to pay a pound, let that man produce his own definitions. There were systems which no doubt would be consistent with the great principles he had stated, but which were different from our own; for instance, that of a double standard in gold and silver: and that of Mr Ricardo, proposing that paper should be convertible only when the notes tendered for specie should reach to upwards of a certain high amount; but he preferred to adhere to the present system of a single gold standard, and a five-pound note convertible into gold. He would now state his views respecting the principle for the regulation of a paper currency, and took a clear distinction between bills of exchange and those promissory notes which, being payable to bearer, served the direct purposes of money. The first Lord Liverpool, a high authority, had enforced this important distinction between paper credit and a paper currency. In his time, as in ours, the attempt was made to deter the state from improving the paper currency, by the fear of injuring paper credit. Adhere to the standard of value and to the principle of convertibility, for your promissory notes, and there will be nothing to fear from any quantity of bills of exchange. But he did not agree that mere convertibility was of itself a sufficient guarantee against an over issue of promissory notes. He admitted, as to most articles, the safety of leaving them to free competition; but the article of currency was one peculiarly circumscribed; it was not an object to produce the greatest quantity of this article at the lowest price. He quoted evidence to show that were unlimited powers of issue to be in private hands, there could not be a complete

sympathy between the amount of currency put forth and the state of the money-market; in such circumstances a danger would always exist, that just as there was beginning to be a rise of prices and a drain of gold the issue of paper would be increased. Observe the fate of the American issues, and the paralysis which had followed that case was a strong illustration that convertibility alone was not a sufficient guarantee. Now, these were his principles, and he thought it fit to lay them down in all their breadth, though he thereby exposed himself to be afterwards told that he did not practically carry them to their full extent. At all events, he would propose no measures which should be inconsistent with his principles; at all events he would try to do as little individual harm as possible, and avoid injuring those principles by inducing an opinion that they were incompatible with the safety of private fortunes. It was contended by some that the power of issuing money, whether in metal or paper, should belong to the state; but this, he agreed with Lord Althorp in thinking, was not an expedient principle for a government to adopt. He would now state the outline of the practical measures which he was prepared to recommend. The bank of England was the instrument by which he proposed to regulate the future issues of circulating paper. With this view he would divide that establishment into two wholly distinct departments, one for banking and one for issue, with separate accounts and separate officers. The future issues would rest on two foundations. The public bringing bullion would be entitled to receive notes for it, as, conversely, they would be entitled to receive gold for their notes, and bullion, therefore, would be one foundation of issue. The other, would be securities; and the amount issuable on these would be limited to £14,000,000, of which £11,000,000 would consist of the loan borrowed of the bank by the public. There would be a complete publicity, both of the banking accounts and of the issues, which would be announced weekly. With respect to other banks, he was of opinion that their general banking operations were not properly the subject of control; but with respect to issues the public had a right to intervene; and he proposed, therefore, that no new bank of issue should be established, and that banks already existing should not increase the amount of their issues, to be calculated upon an average of the last two years. He intended to ask some legal facilities for general banking, by giving power to joint-stock banks to sue and be sued, by removing the present disability of the metropolitan joint-stock banks to accept bills at a shorter date than six months, and by some other accommodations. He would require, on the other hand, the frequent publication of the partners' names and of the issues, but not of the general affairs of the private and joint-stock banks. The terms which had been negotiated with the bank of England for these new arrangements were (in addition to the particulars before specified) the continuance of the already mentioned loan of £11,000,000, and an annual payment by the Bank to the public of £60,000, in addition to the price of £120,000 a year, which they paid for their already existing privileges. The new arrangement would endure to the Bank of England for ten years, subject, however, to revision by parliament, and the private and joint-stock banks would also be liable to a reconsideration of their position by government at the end of the ten years, when it might be deemed expedient to concentrate all banks of issue into one. For Ireland and Scotland he did not propose to legislate at present, except to the extent of prohibiting new banks of issue, and of requiring that the new banks, not of issue, should be subject to registration, and to certain other checks to be exercised by the government. Sir R. Peel, after going fully through these propositions, recapitulated them all in a more summary form, observing that the effect of the control to be vested in the Bank over issues of paper would be to place those issues under the influence of the foreign exchanges. Having thus stated his outline, he hoped that the House and individual members would abstain from pronouncing any opinion then; especially as he intended on the next day (Tuesday) to lay before the House the correspondence of the government with the Bank of England, which must necessarily throw much additional light upon the whole subject. He concluded, by alluding to the satisfaction which he, as the author of the Currency Bill, must receive from the complete fulfilment of his own principles—and to the still greater gratification which on public grounds he should feel, in having been able to provide a security for the middling and humble classes against the dangers, the losses, and the anxieties which, in past time, they had endured from the circumstances and failures of the currency.

Several questions respecting small points of the plan were put to Sir R. Peel across the table.

The chairman of the committee then read the resolutions, which contained, in separate propositions, the plan of the government. These resolutions were passed and reported.

FACTORIES BILL.

The House then went into committee upon the details of the Factories bill.

Some discussion arose on the 30th clause, limiting the time of children's work to six hours and a half, or in some cases seven hours. Mr WARBURTON observed, that though it relieved the individual children whose working time it shortened, yet, by creating a necessity for so many more children to do the work, it increased the total number of children compressed into the large towns, which was the evil chiefly denounced by Lord Ashley. The clause, however, passed without a division.

On the 32nd clause, for protecting adult women as young persons, Lord EBRINGTON, in a few words,

objected to the principle of legislating upon contracts of adult labour, and moved the omission of the clause. Mr HUME considered that enactment had a tendency to encourage prostitution. Mr FOX MAULE objected to it as an interference with adult labour. Mr HINDLEY thought it an unnecessary clause. Lord EBRINGTON said he had wished only to mark his opinion, and would not divide the committee. Mr HUME, however, was not disposed to let the matter pass so easily, and insisted upon dividing. The numbers were—for the clause, 161; against it, 22: majority for it, 139.

The discussions on the remaining clauses had nothing of material interest.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**TAFF.**—Mr Gladstone, in answer to a question put by Mr Gisborne, on Thursday, as to the precise time when the proposed reduction of the duty on coffee was to come into effect, said that "with respect to all the duties, they would come into operation on the same day, that was the day of the passing of the act embodying the resolutions which had been proposed to the House by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Those resolutions he was prepared to lay on the table of the House, and he took that opportunity of saying, that they would not contain the article of vinegar, because there were some inquiries requisite respecting the use of malt in the making of vinegar. He was of opinion, that in the course of a fortnight, or the furthest three weeks, the resolutions purporting to repeal the duties in question, would have become the law of the land."

**COMMUNICATION WITH IRELAND.**—Sir R. Peel, in answer to a question put by Mr Wyse, announced the opinion of government that Holyhead was the best landing point for government packets conveying mails, &c.; but they anticipated some company would undertake to form a railway from that point to Chester direct, and he declined saying, in the meantime, what means might be made disposable on the project by government.

**COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.**—Mr Sharman Crawford has fixed his motion, on this subject, for next Tuesday evening, the 14th inst.

A NEW WRIT was on Monday night ordered for Abingdon, Mr S. Duffield, the present member, having resigned.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, May 2nd.

In answer to a question, the Duke of WELLINGTON intimated that the government meant to maintain Holyhead as the most eligible point of communication with Ireland, but that any grant of money for the improvement of the harbour must depend on the report of the commissioners appointed to ascertain the port best adapted for the arrival and departure of the packets.

#### SANATORY REGULATIONS.

The Marquis of NORMANBY presented a petition from the working men of Edinburgh, founders of public baths in that city, praying for more effective sanatory regulations with respect to the dwellings of the lower classes of the people, and for repeal of the duty on soap. Lord Normanby took occasion to regret the delay in legislating on the subject, two years having elapsed since the sanatory commissioners made their report.

The Duke of BUCKLEIGH said, that bills previously introduced in parliament, however excellent their objects, were found to be impracticable, as they did not provide for the proper distribution of the large sums necessary to carry them into execution. The Commissioners are in the act of making their report, which will shortly be laid before their lordships. It appears that some of the evils may be prevented by existing laws, if properly enforced.

Lord CAMPBELL, having formerly represented Edinburgh in the House of Commons, cordially supported the petition. Edinburgh has deservedly obtained the name of "modern Athens," from the beauty of its buildings and the intelligence of its inhabitants; but it is very unhealthy, which might be prevented by good sanatory regulations.

Lord BROUGHAM started from the woolsack, on which he sat, exclaiming—

I must really say a word as to what has fallen from my noble and learned friend. He says he has represented Edinburgh for a long period. It is well for him he does so no longer, for he has just mentioned a subject the most delicate and painful to the Edinburgh mind that can well be perceived [much laughter]. It is looked on in Edinburgh as the next thing to an insult to make the least reference to the phrase "modern Athens"—so exceedingly vain and presumptuous do they consider the assertion, and so hurt are they by an assumed similarity which there is nothing in the slightest degree to justify. I remember using the phrase inadvertently in the presence of a learned friend of mine in Edinburgh; upon which he remarked, "Never use that word: nobody ventures on it here—'tis taken as next to a personal insult" [more laughter].

Lord CAMPBELL retorted—

My lords, I am really surprised that my noble and learned friend should have found fault with the phrase "modern Athens." Why, Edinburgh produced my noble and learned friend—himself at once an Alcibiades, a Pericles, and a Demosthenes [renewed laughter; Lord Brougham saying something to the lords near him on the woolsack.]

#### CRIMINAL APPEALS.

Lord CAMPBELL moved the Committee on the Bail in Error bill; the object of which was to enable the judges in criminal cases to release the prisoner on bail, pending the proceedings under a writ of error. He hoped the Lord Chancellor would not support the system of a judge named Rhadamanthus, who punished first and then heard the accused.

The LORD CHANCELLOR would not discourse on the days of Rhadamanthus, but he must oppose the

bill. He contended that this measure was started by the Irish state trials, and was indirectly intended to protect Mr O'Connell from the operation of the law. The government had a comprehensive measure for the improvement of the law in the hands of the Attorney-general, which would embrace the objects contemplated by Lord Campbell's bill; and, therefore, render it unnecessary. But he did not oppose it on that ground; it had been brought in to serve a particular object, and was, therefore, vicious in itself. He moved that the bill be considered in committee that day six months.

Lord BROUGHAM was desirous of seeing an amendment of the law undertaken in a comprehensive spirit by the government, and opposed, on that ground, Lord Campbell's bill.

Lord COTTENHAM considered the present state of the law ridiculous, absurd, and inequitable. The Earl of WICKLOW and the Marquis of CLANRICARDE spoke shortly, the latter strongly censuring the Lord Chancellor for having assigned personal reasons for resisting the bill.

The amendment was carried without a division.

Friday, May 3rd.

#### THE DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in moving that the House resolve itself into a committee on this bill, stated its purport, and the reasons for its introduction. The object of this bill is to stay much prospective litigation, of the same nature as that which has rendered Lady Hewley's charities familiar in Westminster hall, and to every newspaper reader. For this purpose, it proposes to terminate all further legal controversy respecting the right to voluntary endowments connected with dissenting chapels, by vesting the property in the religious body in whose hands it may have been for the preceding twenty years. In tracing the history of the Lady Hewley case, the Lord Chancellor said:—

But, my lords, one thing has been determined—and that is a very important part of the concern—the costs came out of the charity [a laugh]—costs which would have crushed and entirely annihilated many a smaller charity. These costs, up to this time, amount to nearly £30,000 [hear, hear]. To be paid out of the charity! The charity is to defray them—to be mulcted of that amount! Why do I state this? This case is not within the bill; but then some inquiries of the same nature must be carried on in those cases to which the bill is directed. There is not a single case coming within the operation of this bill—which is confined most exclusively to chapels, burying grounds, and meeting houses attached to them, and small schools—which, within a week of the commencement of such inquiry, would not be entirely annihilated by the expense [hear, hear]. Am I stating anything visionary? I know that already 200 or 300 suits are talked of as likely to be instituted for the purpose of ousting the present possessors of charities, and to substitute others in their place. Have I made out a case for this interference [hear, hear]—for this moderate, scanty measure of justice? Is it possible that any one acquainted with these circumstances can entertain a doubt as to the propriety and justice of passing this bill?

The Bishop of LONDON opposed the bill. It sanctioned the illegal use of a trust; and it would be *ex post facto* legislation to convey endowments, founded for religious purposes, to objects and opinions wholly contrary to those for which they were originally intended. Besides, heresy was still recognised by law:—

He had, in the first place, thought that those learned persons (the judges) had gone the whole length of saying that now unitarians were free from all penalties whatever, and that the denial of the Holy Trinity was not unlawful; but he believed, on closer examination, that they had guarded themselves by words from such an inference, for they spoke of statutory penalties, and penalties at common law. But there was another branch of the law of England, as important as either the statute or common law, and that was the *common ecclesiastical law of England*—consequently, anything which offended against the latter was not lawful; and that the denial of the Holy Trinity was an offence against the ecclesiastical law of England, appeared from "Hale's History of the Common Law."

It would be more just to take the first twenty, rather than the last twenty years of the application of a chapel, as the evidence of the intention of the founder of the endowment. He moved that the bill be considered in committee that day six months.

Lord BROUGHAM supported the bill, as tending to prevent much litigation, by rendering it unnecessary to inquire into the peculiar tenets of the founder, where there was an actual possession for twenty years.

The Bishop of EXETER and Lord COTTENHAM both addressed the House at considerable length, against and for the bill. The latter, referring to the speech of the Bishop of London:—

The right rev. prelate told them that heresy, on which the alleged illegality of the claims of these congregations was founded, was punishable, notwithstanding the act of Toleration. Punishable! by what courts? By the ecclesiastical courts; that is to say, by those diocesan courts which the right rev. prelate had been so anxious to preserve. The Ecclesiastical Courts bill was not yet through the House of Commons [cheers], and he hoped that that House would, by some means, be informed of what had taken place in their lordships' house, and of the use to which the right rev. prelate wished to put those courts [a laugh].

Monday, May 6th.

The only subject that came before the House was the case of Mr O'Brien, the recently appointed magistrate, and erst a flaming repealer. The Marquis of CLANRICARDE, in a long speech on the subject, moved the following resolution:—

"That it is the opinion of the House, that to appoint, as a stipendiary magistrate in Ireland, a person who had published intemperate and violent expressions, and extreme opinions on those public questions which agitated the minds of the country, was calculated to disturb all

confidence in that steady and efficient administration of justice which it should be the object of such appointments to insure."

Lord WHARNCLIFFE, in the course of a long vindication of the appointment, mentioned that Mr O'Connell had stated, in the House of Commons and elsewhere, that he had been offered the chief barony of the Irish exchequer, by the late government. This the Marquis of NORMANBY distinctly denied, and some bitter altercation ensued; Lord Wharncliffe leaving Mr O'Connell to clear the matter up. The motion was negatived without a division.

#### The Complete Suffrage Movement.

The Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union met at Birmingham on Monday afternoon, preparatory to the annual general meeting of the Union in the evening.

The following letter was received from Mr J. M'Pherson, manufacturer, Aberdeen:—

Aberdeen, 23rd April, 1844.

DEAR SIR—Pursuant to promise, I now take up my pen to drop you a few lines, regarding the present prospects of the complete suffrage movement. We, in this place, are somewhat in the same position as many others, comparatively lifeless, doing very little, and making less noise even with what we are doing. It is not my intention, however, to discourage you, who have the "burden to bear," nor to make things worse than truth absolutely demands. My faith in the cause is strong as ever, and even under this apathy I think I can see signs of great progress. I shall therefore direct my investigations to that point which may, perhaps, be more profitable than the mere enumeration of common-place details.

Amidst a mass of comparatively local questions which have agitated the mind, and occupied the time, of such sectional departments as our own might be termed, the cause of "complete suffrage" has been in a manner overlooked—the subject, indeed, is too general and too abstract for the minds of many; by these it is looked upon more as a problem to be solved, than a practical point to be carried. Men's vision is so obtuse, that unless a subject present something direct, something attractive, or something to be gained—and that, too, within their very reach—they can scarcely, in ordinary circumstances, be made to comprehend it; but when the affairs of the country reach a crisis, or, more properly, when almost every individual's affairs are critical, when adversity frowns on every man, or on the great majority of men, then such minds become susceptible of receiving instruction; when the very fact appears, of every man's resources having entirely failed him, when nothing he can turn himself to can be made to prosper, he at last feels himself, as it were, forced to investigate first causes, or to listen attentively to others on such subjects.

Taking these circumstances into account, and, at the same time, keeping prominently before us the past and even the present circumstances of the country, we must not be awfully surprised that our cause has had so little of noisy popular support—indeed, it could not be expected. The cause itself has suffered so much by being so long handled by men without experience, and, in many cases, of very violent temperance and doubtful integrity, that it must take some time to get it re-established; and, during its transition, it is not to be expected that it can appear to progress to the superficial observer. The marked changes which are taking place in the instructing department may make it appear as if a temporary lull had overtaken us; but, if our enemies calculate on that, they were never more deceived. Those who were formerly in the field are now either driven from it, or in the hands of an opposing faction. The course of instruction is changed. Formerly it partook a good deal of the irreligious—at least, it exhibited a great deal of hostility to the established forms of religion, and classified its teachers amongst its opponents, without any distinction whatever; and, moreover, bore, on its very face, an anti-property distinction. Happily for the cause, this no longer exists—the ground is now perfectly clear—the work of conversion will speedily follow.

Let me, therefore, entreat you to persevere. Now is the time that much good can be done. Parliament, it is true, is strong in opposition to us—giving such repulses, that courage the most daring might quail before it. The country itself is in a most morbid state: nothing whatever can be got to arouse it or to make it sensitive. These, no doubt, are discouraging, and calculated to damp the spirits. The enemy, however, is always active: his present position is strong, but not invulnerable. A change may be far distant, or, perhaps, near at hand; in either case we must be preparing. When that change takes place, there is not a doubt but that our efforts, to a great extent, will be successful. Free trade in itself is all very good—we want free trade; but we want at the same time the power both to make and to keep it free: we want also to curtail the expenses and the extravagance of government—to open the field for industry—to place within the reach of every man who is able and willing to work, a fair share of the means of subsistence. These can only be accomplished by the establishment of a proper check on the government—an independent House of Commons, selected by the free votes of a whole people; this is our object, and, until it is accomplished, we ought never to cease in making our grievances known.

I am, yours very truly,  
JOHN M'PHERSON.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION.

The annual meeting of the members of the National Complete Suffrage Union was held in the public office, Birmingham, on Monday evening. The president, Mr Sturge, in the chair. The Secretary read the report of the Council for the year. The document goes fully into the history of the supply movement, and, besides presenting a most valuable summary of facts on the state of the representation, gives a view of the present position and prospects of the complete suffrage cause which is most cheering. From the length of the report, we find it impossible to give it entire in the present

number, and shall therefore defer its publication until next week.

Mr Sturge then rose, and made some observations on the discussion which took place in the town council on Friday, on a motion to petition parliament in favour of complete suffrage. It had been said by some, that the town council was not the place to take such a subject up. Now it was his opinion, that if town councils be representative bodies, they were especially bound to take care that the liberties of the people should be preserved [hear, hear]. There had been several cases in which town councils had taken up subjects of national importance—such as the corn laws, and the abolition of slavery [hear]. He held that it was not only suitable, but most appropriate, for town councils, who represented the ratepayers, to petition parliament for complete suffrage; and therefore he was glad that the town council of Birmingham had resolved to do so on Friday [hear, hear]. It was gratifying, too, as being an advance on last year's position: then an amendment on the same resolution was carried, appointing a committee to inquire into the evils of which the resolution complained; that committee had never met [hear, hear]. But those who disapproved of the motion this year had not met it by moving for another committee of inquiry, but by an amendment that the Council should petition for "full, fair, and free representation" [hear]. Now he believed that every one in the present meeting held that full, fair, and free representation meant the six points [hear]; that was the sense in which it had hitherto been used; and therefore he was glad to find, that although the motion had been opposed, the opposition had not been directed against the principle of complete suffrage [hear, hear]. It would appear that the division had created some uneasiness, for one of the papers reported that the motion had only been carried by a majority of one, while another said it was negative; but the fact was, it had been carried by a majority of five [hear, hear, hear]. It had been argued by some on Friday, that that was not the time to discuss the subject. Now, he felt that this was just the time. They had a share of the temporary prosperity which prevailed in the country—and it was well it was so; but they should bear in mind, that times of prosperity were generally taken advantage of by the aristocracy, to pass laws, the oppressive effects of which were most felt when the people were least able to bear them. They had had some proof of that during the present session, when measures had been introduced, and some of which were yet pending, of the most despotic kind [hear, hear]. The urgent necessity for complete suffrage was in itself a sufficient justification for bringing it under the consideration of town councils. For example—take the question of the repeal of the corn laws [hear]. Had not everything been done that could be done to show the necessity of, and advantages which would follow, a repeal of the corn laws? and had not a very strong demonstration of public feeling been called forth in opposition to those laws? and yet what had parliament done? Nothing. He would be glad, indeed, to see those laws repealed, and had taken some part to aid in obtaining their repeal; but he had frequently said, when the anti-corn-law movement was in the zenith of its strength, that they would never get the corn laws repealed by a landlord parliament; and now he was more convinced than ever, that this view of the subject was the correct one [applause]. But it might be said, that the suffrage movement did not at present hold forth much reason to hope that it would be effective for the repeal of these and other bad laws. He would at once admit that the suffrage movement was not making so much noise as some others; but of this he felt persuaded, that it never was in a more hopeful or satisfactory state [hear]. There was an undercurrent at work in favour of complete suffrage, which would show itself on the surface ere long. Last week, when he incidentally alluded, in the Anti-state-church Conference, to the evils it had met to deprecate, as the result of class legislation, and only to be removed by its abolition, a spontaneous burst of feeling was at once elicited, which of itself might be viewed as a most satisfactory indication of the progress which the cause is making in the minds of the middle classes, of which that Conference might be taken as a fair representation [applause].

Councillor BALDWIN moved, and Councillor FIELD seconded the motion, that the report be adopted and printed under the direction of the committee. Unanimously passed.

Mr STURGE then said he had the pleasure of introducing John Dunlop, of Edinburgh, the president of the Edinburgh Complete Suffrage Association, who had a motion to make.

Mr DUNLOP then came forward, and was received with applause. He moved that the following petition be adopted, and sent to Mr Crawford for presentation:—

"To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

"The petition of the National Complete Suffrage Union  
"Sheweth—

"That the House of Commons does not now represent the people, there being upwards of six millions of male adults in Great Britain and Ireland, and only one million electors; while less than a hundred and sixty thousand electors return a majority of the members.

"That the House of Commons does not now possess the confidence of the people of these realms.

"That a large portion of the members have notoriously obtained their seats by the most profligate bribery and corruption.

"That parliamentary proceedings are obviously influenced by selfish personal and party motives rather than by a regard to justice, or to the wants and wishes of the people; of which ample evidence is supplied by

the maintenance of enormous ecclesiastical and military establishments.

"That the House of Commons betrays gross ignorance of the condition, interests, and wishes of the people, and utter recklessness of their welfare.

"Your petitioners, therefore, earnestly pray that your honourable House will extend the franchise to every male citizen of twenty-one, with such provisions as will render its exercise full, fair, and free—namely, vote by ballot—no property qualification—payment of members—equal electoral districts—and annual parliaments.

"And your petitioners will ever pray, &c."

He believed the complete suffrage movement was the great question of the day—one in which all the others must in the end concentrate; and, therefore, while he rejoiced in the progress which other subjects of national importance were making, he should do all in his power to aid them in the extension of the suffrage, and to that alone did he look for the removal of evils they were all ready to deplore [hear]. Great principles did not always show themselves continuously progressive; they were more like the flowing tide, than the swelling, roaring, tumultuous billow, foaming and breaking at last on the shore. The history of the great question of civil and religious liberty was an instructive one. It taught them that while great events, like the American and French revolutions, might incite to democratic action, great principles made their way slowly, and were only established by experience and the lapse of time [hear, hear]. "The proper study of mankind is man," was a true maxim. If man were made more the subject of study than subordinate things, the principles which govern or ought to govern him in all his relations of life would be better understood and more fully appreciated [hear]. He recollects hearing an anecdote of a Scottish artist, who, on visiting Rome, found himself one day within the dome of the catholic cathedral there just as service was commencing. Absorbed with its grandeur, his attention was incidentally directed to a child kneeling on the floor in worship. The train of his reflections was instantly changed. "The destiny of that child," thought the artist, "is immortal. He will live when this glorious fabric crumbles into dust, and his influence on mankind will extend into eternity;" and then he ejaculated, "The proper study of mankind is man!" [applause.] In reviewing the past they had much to learn. The time was not far gone when they thought their civil and religious freedom would be secured by the passing of the Reform bill: they now found that that anticipation was deceptive [hear]. They had become wise too late. The cry had been, "The bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill." Had universal suffrage been the watch-word, and full, fair, and free representation been realised, they would not have been there that night to contend for the extension of the franchise to every male citizen of twenty-one [cheers]. But it was not yet too late [hear, hear]—they had the watch-word of "complete suffrage" to animate them—they would carry it from rank to rank, from sentinel to sentinel—they would hold it up as the torch of truth, until the "day-break and the shadows flee away," aristocratic dominion be brought down, and until all oppression by man upon man

Hath passed away,  
And, like the baseless fabric of a vision,  
Left not a wreck behind!

[applause]. They were much indebted in Scotland to the Complete Suffrage Union. The soundness of the principles it sought to carry into practice, and the character of the individuals who were conducting the movement, were in themselves sufficient to commend it to their support—and would not fail to have removed all suspicion of any desire to dictate, had such suspicion ever prevailed [applause]. The cause in Scotland was progressing—the middle classes were giving up their prejudices against it; they felt now that our principles were not revolutionary—that they were based on abstract justice—were matters of common sense and common prudence; and that their practical adoption by the legislature would tend to the benefit of the whole community [applause]. The temperance people and the thoroughgoing dissenters were doing much to promote the suffrage movement, directly and indirectly; and the mass of the people, many of whom were at first naturally jealous, but always kind, were now falling in with the middle classes, and seeking to promote it [applause]. On a late occasion in Edinburgh they had come nobly forward, having mainly subscribed a petition, which had 17,000 signatures, and prayed that parliament should accede to the demand of Sharman Crawford, that redress of grievances should precede the voting of supplies [cheers]. Had it not been for the shortness of time, double the number of signatures would have been exhibited. The cause, too, in Scotland was greatly indebted to the eloquent and impressive Henry Vincent—not that the large audiences he had recently addressed in Edinburgh were merely pleased with his forcible eloquence and beautiful illustrations, but by the moral weight of the great truths—the great principles of justice which the subjects he handled in themselves possessed [cheers]. He was glad in being able to say, also, that Mr Vincent had the satisfaction of lecturing in three of the largest dissenting churches in Edinburgh [hear, hear]: this had led to a number of people going to hear Mr Vincent who would not otherwise have heard him, and thus truth had been lodged in hearts where it was most likely to produce good fruit [applause]. Mr Dunlop, after a few more observations, sat down amid applause.

ARTHUR ALBRIGHT, Esq., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr H. HANKS then moved a vote of thanks to the nineteen town councillors whose votes in the council on Friday carried a resolution to petition parliament

in favour of complete suffrage. Mr Hanks analysed the objections taken to the motion, and exposed their hollowness in a masterly manner.

Mr DUFFY seconded the motion in a telling speech.

Mr STURGE having left the chair, Mr DUNLOP was called to preside, when

Mr GILES moved "that the heartfelt, earnest, and grateful thanks of the meeting be given to Joseph Sturge, Esq., for his unwearied, energetic, and philanthropic labours as president of this society, and for his invariable exertions for the benefit of his fellow creatures in every clime and country."

Councillor BALDWIN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The meeting then separated.

ABERDEEN.—Mr Vincent has addressed three meetings in Aberdeen. The first was held in one of our churches, and was crowded by a highly-respectable audience, who received the lecturer with great applause. His address excited considerable interest—was warmly responded to—and drew forth a unanimous and hearty vote of thanks. The two other lectures were delivered in the Temperance hall, to large meetings. They were presided over by Mr M'Pherson, and excited a lively interest in those who attended. Good seed was sown—may it bring forth an abundant crop! On Thursday evening a select tea-party was held in the Odd Fellows' hall, in token of respect to Mr Vincent before he left our city. There was a large and respectable party present. Mr Maitland in the chair. Interesting speeches were made by Messrs Thompson, Adam, Lowery, and others. Mr Vincent also addressed the assembly, in response to their hearty good wishes, conveyed through the chairman. The party separated at eleven o'clock, after spending a happy and useful evening.

BRECHIN.—Mr Vincent addressed from 200 to 300 of the inhabitants of this small town on the suffrage question, on his way from Aberdeen to Perth. Several respectable electors attended. A vote of thanks was given to Mr V. with loud applause.

PROGRESS OF OPINION.—Last year the subject of complete suffrage was brought before the Birmingham town council, by Alderman Weston, who moved that the council petition parliament in its favour. This motion was lost by a majority of two. The suffragists in Birmingham, indignant at being thus misrepresented, set themselves actively to work at the November election, and succeeded in returning as many suffrage candidates as enabled them to elect a complete suffrage mayor, and on Friday they carried the same resolution to petition parliament which was rejected last year, not one present attempting to dispute the right of every man to be fully, fairly, and freely represented in parliament.

THE SUPPLY MOVEMENT—ANOTHER "GREAT FACT."—It appears from the last parliamentary statement, that during the two months parliament has been sitting, no fewer than 59,869 persons have petitioned in favour of the supply movement. This is the largest number of petitioners on any subject this season, except for a repeal of the legislative union between Great Britain and Ireland.

## General News.

### FOREIGN.

#### INDIA AND CHINA.

A Calcutta overland mail, brought by the Bentinck to Suez, bears intelligence from Calcutta to the 14th, and from Bombay to the 13th March; but it is unimportant. India was tranquil. "Scinde is firmly and for ever annexed to the British possessions." The Governor-general arrived at Calcutta on the 28th February; well in health, and increasing in popularity. The usual ceremonies were observed. Every display of military pomp and civil splendour, which could tend to enhance the grandeur of the spectacle, was called into exercise. Lahore and Afghanistan were still in a state of mutual hostility. An appeal to arms was daily expected. Three Madras and Bengal regiments continued to be in a mutinous condition, on account of the refusal of batata.

At a public meeting in Calcutta, attended by some of the chief inhabitants, an address to welcome the return of the Governor-general, proposed by the sheriff, was adopted—conveying this covert censure of Lord Ellenborough's absence:—

"The presence of the head of this colonial empire at the seat of government is so essential in every way to its prosperity, as to make it but natural that we should bear even his necessary absence with something like impatience, and hail his return with the warmest expression of satisfaction. That your lordship's residence among us may be continued—that no state emergency may again demand your personal care in other parts of this wide territory—must always be our earnest desire."

The regular overland mail arrived on Saturday evening per the Great Liverpool. It contains but little additional information.

The mutinous spirit shown by the troops had been very serious. The *Times* gives the following summary of what has taken place in the matter:—

In order to prevent the annexation of Scinde from becoming a drain on the resources of the company, orders were issued, towards the close of the last year, that the allowance of extra batta should not be continued to the new troops, then on their route to Scinde. On this, the 64th native infantry refused to march; and a similar spirit of disaffection was exhibited by some Madras regiments. To repress this mutinous disposition, and to overcome the superstitious scruples entertained by the sepoys against crossing the Indus, the Governor-general announced his intention of giving to the troops in the Scindian cantonments the same allowances which are received by troops in the field in Hindostan. This indulgence was followed by a compensatory rigour towards

the most refractory regiments: these were either disbanded entirely, or purified from the infection of mutiny. To give the reality as well as the appearance of security to the possession of the conquered province, it had been proposed to augment the strength of the Bombay army, and to make Scinde an appanage of the Bombay presidency. The cost of the grant to the Sepoys in Scinde is variously estimated; it has been calculated at £50,000 per annum, but the improvements going on in the districts on the borders of the Indus will soon repay it.

From Lahore the news is of great importance. There a civil war is raging; a chief called Cashmeera Singh, a bastard of Runjeet, is opposed to the new prime minister, Heer Singh, and, as the Sikhs support him, it is probable there will be another revolution within a few months in the Punjab. The notorious Afghan leader, Akhbar Khan, has led his troops to invade Peshawur, and he will, in all probability, force the Lahore government into an application to the Governor-general for assistance. It is not improbable that there will be another conflict with the Afghans on the plains of the Punjab, where the Indians, when not aided by the English, have almost always been routed by the hardy mountaineers.

The latest date from China was the 15th February. The town of Victoria was quite healthy, and it was hoped that the ensuing summer would not be so fatal as the last. Several daring attempts at robbery had been made at Hong Kong. The tea trade was at a stand, in consequence of the high prices demanded.

#### FRANCE.

The King's *fête* has been the great object of attraction during the past week among our Parisian neighbours, although it appears to have gone off somewhat tamely. On Tuesday there was a grand exhibition of the products of French industry in the Champs Elysées. The *Moniteur* publishes a long list of addresses presented to Louis Philippe on the occasion of his annual *fête*, among which figure those from the *corps diplomatique*, the Chambers of Peers and Deputies, and the clergy. The most remarkable, indeed the only important one, for the rest are of the most commonplace description, is the address of the clergy, which was presented by the Archbishop of Paris, at the head of a deputation. The address contained a strong reference to the quarrel between the church and the university. The king in reply expressed in a very marked manner his disapprobation of the address. The Prison Discipline bill was still before the Chamber of Deputies. The sense of the House was declared on Friday to be adverse to extending to two hours the time (one hour per day) which the bill proposes to allow to prisoners for air and exercise. The Chamber subsequently adopted the first twelve articles of the bill. The prisoners (the accused as well as the convicted) are hereafter to be separated during the day and night. Each prisoner will have a spacious, salubrious, and well-aired cell.

In the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday a petition presented by the operatives of Paris for the abolition of negro slavery in the French colonies was referred to the Minister of Marine after an animated debate, in the course of which M. Guizot declared that it was the determination of the government to abolish negro slavery in the French colonies, and that in their course they would be guided by the example and the experience of Great Britain. Immediate abolition was not contemplated. The Minister of the Interior thought it necessary that the blacks should be instructed and civilised, and for that purpose the government was anxiously employed in establishing seminaries of religious and moral instruction, and in regulating the periods of labour. A very spirited discussion followed, in the course of which M. Ledru Rollin declared that the seminaries spoken of by the Minister of Marine, had been long established, but that they were useless, because the masters of the blacks would not allow their slaves to attend the schools; and M. Guizot said that it was so well known that the immediate abolition was impossible, and that he dared any member to propose it.

#### SPAIN.

The Spanish ministry have resigned *en masse*, and the Queen has accepted their resignation. The discord which had prevailed for some days among the members of the Spanish cabinet had caused an extraordinary confusion in the capital, and the determination of ministers to resign in a body, which was carried into effect on the 2nd inst, had tended to increase it. In three days the price of the three per cents. fell 5 per cent. in two days, and business was transacted to the enormous amount of 127,600,000 reals. The Queen, or rather Queen Christina, has commissioned General Narvaez to form another ministry, of which M. de Miraflores will form part. M. Bravo and his colleagues have announced to her Majesty that they will lend their assistance to their successors. There is therefore not likely to be any change of policy. The *Times* correspondent says:—

A more serious matter, and one which has given rise to the panic, is the report that the ministers were treating with the Pope respecting a reconciliation, the basis of which would be the cessation of sales of the property of the secular clergy, with a view to their ultimate restoration to the church. This has been denied; but I am assured that a private order has been issued to suspend the said sales. Nothing has transpired officially; but the previous quarrels of the ministers have revealed more than they can now smother, and the re-action is serious. I need scarcely say that the movement is considered a Carlist one in effect, and the consequence of the influence of the returned bishops.

The imprisoned liberal deputies had been set at liberty; but it appears, from the *Eco del Comercio*, that although M. Cortina, Perez, Garnica, Benedicto, and Garrido, have been set free, after an im-

prisonment of 88 days, means have been found to keep M. Madoz, who has also been acquitted, still longer in prison, upon the ground that there is still an undecided case against him before the military tribunals.

#### GREECE.

Letters from Athens, of the 20th April, announce the formation of a new ministry:—"Mavrocordato, president and minister of finances; Tricoupis, foreign affairs and public instruction, &c.; General Rhodius, war; Colonel Andreas Londos, interior; Andreas Ch. Londos, justice. The ministry of the marine is kept open. Mavrocordato takes the direction of it *pro tempore*. Although there are two Londos, still they are not of the same family, one being a native of Patras, and the other of Vastitza. Although Colletti takes no share in the ministry, he has written to Mavrocordato to say that he will give it his cordial support. The ministry must reckon on a violent opposition from the Russian party."

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

**TIGERS.**—We have again to record more deaths by tigers during the week. On Thursday last a Chinese, by the name of Lee-no-leage, was cutting wood with a companion in the neighbourhood of Tanling, when a tiger sprang out of the jungle and carried him off. Several of his friends penetrated the jungle in search of him, and, after several hours' fatigue, succeeded in discovering the remains of the unfortunate man. He was dreadfully mangled, and one of his legs entirely devoured. Another Chinese was killed on Sunday near the new harbour. It appears that thirty men were employed in cutting wood, and, after felling a large tree, one of them went a few yards from the rest, and commenced cutting the branches, when a small tiger sprang out of the jungle, and with one blow killed the poor fellow. The tigers are not only becoming very numerous, but exceedingly bold, one having been seen a few nights since on a cultivated plantation, and within fifty yards of the public road. Another came close to the dwelling-house of a gentleman, and carried off a fine dog. We are rejoiced, however, to find that the plan of digging pits has proved successful. On Monday a large tiger was caught in one of them, in a gambier plantation, about three miles from town. On this occasion the Chinese killed him in the pit with spears.—*Singapore Free Press*.

**THE GWALIOR BATTLES TRAVESTIED.**—On the 23d of February, about 300 boys, of ten to twelve years of age, collected on the hills, and divided themselves into two parties—one counterfeiting the English army, and the other the Mahratta. On the one side two of the boys were appointed to represent the governor-general and the commander-in-chief, a number more as generals and other officers, and the remainder appeared as soldiers. On the other side a boy represented the Maharajah Jyajee Rao, another Ram Rao Phalkeen, others General Baptist, Major Secunder, and Baboo Seetolia; a girl of the Kachee tribe represented Tara Bae, and of the Koomhar tribe Rookhma Bae. It was proclaimed, that whatever boy in the lushkun should refuse to come he should be counted as faithless as Jacob. A quantity of otta and dal was collected to represent the commissariat stores, and four boys were appointed to carry water as Bheesties; a mussuck was filled with cowries as a treasure chest, and the pay of the sepoys fixed at eight cowries, and that of the officers according to their rank. About twenty-five canons, brass and iron, of a cubit long, with a quantity of gunpowder, were brought from the bazaar, and when all was ready the fight commenced. First the Maharajah's guns commenced, and then the representatives of the English began to move onward: in this attack seven or eight boys were killed, and ten or twelve wounded. On the next and following day the fight was renewed. On the morning of the 25th about 300 or 400 boys were still collected, when the messengers of the Bae again came, and seizing some twenty-four or twenty-five boys, among the rest the mock Sewace Secunder, put them in the stocks; the others seeing this fled. The Durbar has caused a proclamation to be made in the lushkun, forbidding such sports in future under pain of punishment.—*Times*.

#### DOMESTIC.

##### IRELAND.

**THE STATE TRIALS.**—The Solicitor-general finished his reply on behalf of the Crown on Tuesday, and was succeeded by Mr Henn, who replied for the traversers. Mr Monaghan followed on the same side, and concluded on Wednesday. On Thursday Mr Fitzgibbon addressed the court on the part of the traversers. He spoke sitting, as he suffered from a sprain in the ankle, the consequence of a fall from his horse. Then came Mr M'Donough on behalf of Mr Barrett. The Attorney-general commenced the final reply on the part of the Crown on Friday, and concluded on Saturday evening. His speech was considered superior to his usual productions in that line. On the learned gentleman resuming his seat, Mr Whiteside and Mr Monaghan mutually claimed a right to reply, as the Attorney-general had in the course of his argument cited some fresh authorities, to which it would be necessary to put in a rejoinder. The Attorney and Solicitor-general opposed this attempt to protract the judgment of the court. Justice Burton interposed by announcing that the court would take its time to "consider." The court then adjourned till Monday morning. It was understood that the decision of the court on the new trial motion would be pronounced on Monday. The Orange party calculate, with apparent confidence, that the court will refuse to disturb the verdict, although the motion may be granted as regards one of the tra-

versers, Mr Tierney. The Crown will object to the motion in arrest of judgment, to be moved by Sir Coleman O'Loghlen, on the ground that notice has not been served.

**REPEAL ASSOCIATION.**—The adjourned meeting took place on Friday, when there was a crowded attendance. C. O'Connell, Esq., of Ennis, occupied the chair. A kind of reconciliatory letter was read from Lord Shrewsbury, in which he expressed a warm sympathy for the wrongs of Ireland. After some further uninteresting business, Mr O'Connell, on the subject of their future proceedings, stated that it had been referred to a committee to prepare an address to the people. He reviewed, at great length, the history of the repeal movement, and of the wrongs of Ireland; but his speech contained nothing of a novel character. He referred to English sympathy, and strongly advised peace and perseverance. He concluded.

There need be no apprehension in his case, for he told them he never was more comfortable in his own house than he would be in prison [loud cheers and laughter]. He told them that no one pang of sorrow, or one feeling of inconvenience, should ever disturb the tranquillity of his mind, or make his blood circulate with more than natural rapidity through his veins [hear, hear]. He had not the least notion—he would not descend to use the word apprehension—not wearing out his time of imprisonment. There would be, to be sure, one sorrow that could not be removed—an affliction that could not be soothed—if either of two things happened—if either the people broke the peace or abandoned the agitation [loud cheering]. Let him anticipate, and conceive himself within the prison cell, and there he pronounced in a loud voice, "Irishmen, as you love your country, be peaceable, loyal, tranquil—Irishmen, remember you have a country, and let not the enemies of that country triumph over you by your criminal apathy in neglecting the cause now that I am within the prison walls" [loud and continued cheering, and cries of "Never, never"]. Mr Steele then spoke, and was followed by Mr Smith O'Brien, who reiterated Mr O'Connell's injunctions on the subject of peace. The association adjourned to Monday.

#### SCOTLAND.

**PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE 26TH REGIMENT.**—On Friday forenoon this distinguished corps marched from the castle to Brunsfield Links, where they performed a variety of evolutions with great steadiness and activity, before Sir Neil Douglas and the North British staff. The General and Lieutenant-colonel then received the new colours from the Majors Hogarth, C.B., and Strange, and laid them on the drums. Lieutenant Wallace and Ensign Wallace (brothers) were called up to the drums, and Principal Lee consecrated the new colours by offering up a prayer over them for the success of the regiment on the field of battle. The General then raised the colours and handed them to Lady Douglas, who, after a very animated address, presented them to Lieutenant and Ensign Wallace, who received them kneeling. The Lieutenant-colonel then returned thanks in a neat speech in the name of the regiment. About 80,000 were present. —*Edinburgh Chronicle*.

**IRISH MARRIAGE QUESTION.**—A spirited and numerously attended meeting on this subject took place in the Waterloo rooms, on Thursday evening. Our readers will observe with pleasure that the dissenting bodies of all denominations have concurred heartily in denouncing the insult which has been offered to them all, and the wrong done to the presbyterians of Ulster, by the late decision of the House of Lords regarding mixed marriages. The union and cordiality which was displayed on this occasion among parties who lately were at bitter variance, was cheering in the extreme.—*Edinburgh Chronicle*.

**CARRYING COALS TO NEWCASTLE.**—Saturday morning the Frith of Forth presented a very animated scene. Upwards of thirty light colliers were seen beating up from the various coal ports on the coast to load coal for the London market, in consequence of the "strike" among the English pitmen; and, what is not a little curious, a large vessel is at present loading Scottish coal for Newcastle.—*Carlisle Journal*.

The Queen Dowager has almost recovered from her late illness.

**GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.**—A court of directors was held at the East India house on Monday, when Lieutenant-general the Right Hon. Sir Henry Hardinge, K.C.B., was appointed unanimously governor-general of India. The *Times* gives the following additional information:—

It is understood in the city that Sir H. Hardinge, the new governor-general of India, will leave England early in next month; that he will proceed by way of Marseilles, and that instructions will be sent out by this mail to provide a powerful steam-vessel as well as that port for the governor-general and his suite, as at Suez, so as to afford them every facility for the journey, and to ensure at the same time all possible expedition in entering upon his appointment. With respect to Sir Henry Pottinger, whose personal qualifications seemed to designate him as a successor to Lord Ellenborough, and whose claims in that respect have certainly been under consideration, there appears to have been an objection started to his appointment in consequence of some bye-law, expressed or understood, of the East India Company; who, it is said, make it a standing rule never to appoint any person who has been in their service to the post of governor-general. Sir Charles Metcalfe, who has also been mentioned since the recall of Lord Ellenborough, would, it seems, be disqualified for the same reason.

**MR B. WOOD, M.P.**—We have heard, with much regret, that this gentleman, who has been for some time in indifferent health, has been lately attacked by paralysis of so serious a character, as to occasion much anxiety to his friends. Mr Wood has sat since 1840 for the borough of Southwark.—*Times*.

**OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.**—Friday night's *Gazette* notifies the appointment of John Marquis of Bute to be high commissioner to the General Assembly of the church of Scotland. The *Gazette* mentions the appointment of commander Charles Fitzgerald, R.N., to be governor of the Gambia settlements. It also announces the appointment, to be companions of the Order of the Bath, of several officers in the Queen's and East India Company's armies, concerned in recent military operations.

By the death of the Hon. Richard Bootle Wilbraham, M.P., a vacancy occurs in the representation of South Lancashire.

**FREE-GROWN PRODUCE AND SLAVERY.**—In taking any increased quantity of free-grown sugar out of the foreign market, we by so much raise the demand for the slave-grown, and the thing thus is as broad as it is long, it mattering not a rush to the slave whether his labour is put in requisition to supply our direct demand for the commodity, or to supply those who want it in consequence of our demand.—*Examiner*.

**THAMES EMBANKMENT.**—A deputation, headed by Lord John Russell, M.P., Mr Masterman, and other of the metropolitan members, waited upon Lord Lincoln at Whitehall place, by appointment, on the subject of the proposed new tax upon coals, which was intended to be imposed for the purpose of defraying the expense of the contemplated embankment of the River Thames. From what took place, it seems likely that the proposed tax will be abandoned.

**THOMAS CARLYLE ON THE CORN LAWS.**—The following, among other letters, was addressed to the chairman of the Liverpool Anti-monopoly Association, on the occasion of the late free-trade banquet:—

Chelsea, London, March 12, 1844.

SIR—With my thanks to the council of the Anti-monopoly Association for the honour they do me, I have to express my regret at not being able to attend on the day in question.

No man wishes better to the cause of free trade—which, indeed, seems to me, in itself, the cause of common sense and common honesty—a sad thing to be called upon to demonstrate at this time of day. Called upon, nevertheless, many are, and grievous obstructions on all sides do abound. These, if the cause is true, will of a very surety have to take themselves away, and the sooner the cheaper it will be for them, I believe! But, perhaps, we have not yet got at the *whole truth*; perhaps it is on that ground not entirely without profit to us, though at their own great peril, that they are permitted to continue yet awhile.

Wishing you and all men that mean manfully good success,

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

T. CARLYLE.

A Court of Directors was held at the East India house on Wednesday; when Major-general Sir George Pollock, G.C.B., was appointed a provisional member of the council of India.

The Agricultural Society of Calcutta have petitioned parliament to have the duty on the importation of Indian wheat removed, as has been done with regard to Canada.

The new King of Sweden has commenced his reign inauspiciously. Under an old and forgotten law a man named Nilson, for becoming a convert to the church of Rome, has had his property confiscated and been sentenced to banishment.

Lady Pollock, the wife of the General Pollock, arrived in town on Thursday, from India, with her daughter.

Above two thousand pictures, many of them of singular merit, have been rejected at the Royal academy, owing to the want of space.

The French minister of war has completed, and ordered to be put in force, regulations for preventing duels in the army.

**INTENDED STATUE OF HER MAJESTY.**—The statue of her Majesty, eight feet high, of white marble, intended to be placed in the centre of the area of the new Exchange, is to be executed, we understand, by Mr Leough.

The payment made by twenty-eight of the London banking-houses in the clearing-house during 1840, amounted to the enormous sum of £978,496,800.

Lord Abinger, the late Chief Baron of the Exchequer, has left the whole of his personal property to his eldest son, the present peer. He died without appointing an executor. The property is sworn under £18,000.

### Postscript.

Wednesday, May 8th.

#### RECALL OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

The recall of Lord Ellenborough—the most startling and conspicuous, if not really the most important exercise of British sovereignty that the present year has yet brought forth—is for the present to remain a mystery. Last night the correspondence between government and the directors was made the subject of inquiry in both houses, and withheld.

The Marquis of Normanby, who had himself been the governor of a province, under circumstances of almost equal difficulty, put the question in the Lords, with a delicacy and considerateness suggested by his own recollections of office. He was thanked for his kindness, and appropriately answered with an appeal to the pain which this correspondence might inflict on the late Governor-general, and the embarrassment it would occasion to his successor.

Lord Campbell made an effective and telling speech upon the Duke of Wellington's frequent charges of "indiscretion" against the East India directors, and concluded:—

He might be allowed to form his own opinion respecting the act of the directors, which he thought was rather a *felicitous indiscretion* (laughter); and he would conclude, in the words of Hamlet—

"—Indiscretion sometimes serves us well,  
When our deep plots do fail" (a laugh).

The Duke of Wellington declared that he had no wish to effect an alteration in the charter of the East India Company, or to cripple the powers of the directors.

Lord Ripon's reply was quite a specimen of the official curtain, and really did not let out the smallest glimpse of the secret. He did justice to everybody—to Lord Normanby, to himself, to the government, and to the directors; and there the matter, for the present, was to end.

In the House of Commons Mr Hume, in moving for the production of the correspondence between the Court of Directors of the East India Company and her Majesty's government, respecting the call of Lord Ellenborough, went at some length into the subject, and censured the conduct of government. It was Sir Robert Peel's cue to conciliate the directors, without throwing over ministers in general, the Duke in particular, or Lord Ellenborough. He managed it cleverly, at least cleverly enough for the House.

He praised Lord Ellenborough in vague terms, without upholding him in the points in dispute between him and the directors; he then threw over the past as a disagreeable subject—lauded Sir H. Hardinge to the skies, and praised the directors as having, since the recall, evinced the utmost discretion and public spirit, acquiescing in the appointment of a successor. As for the Duke, he defended him by saying that he had done what Mr Hume very often does, which may be true, but which never before had been said of any one as a compliment by Sir R. Peel.

The tone of Mr Astell and Mr Hogg was equally amusing. They did not explain, they did not excuse, they did not regret the step which the directors had taken; they said, on the contrary, that they should be ready to defend it when called upon; and they left it to be implied that their conduct required neither explanation nor defence.

To Mr Roebuck's pointed question, whether "the principles on which Sir H. Hardinge goes out to govern India are the principles which have directed the government of Lord Ellenborough," Sir Robert Peel gave an answer emphatically, though not directly, in the negative. "As to the principles," he said, "on which he will conduct the government of India, I believe he will decide for himself" (that is, he won't follow Lord Ellenborough), "I am confident they will be principles of justice and moderation." Mr Macaulay thought Mr Hume's motion should be persisted in, especially as the court of Directors had been accused of being guilty of the gravest indiscretion. Lord John Russell advised its withdrawal, but Mr Hume persisted, with the pointed remark, that the court of Directors submitted to the imputation thrown on them, they were cowering dogs, whom he would remove, if he had the power, to-morrow. The motion was rejected by 197 to 21.

**LAW OF MORTMAIN.**—Lord John Manners then brought on a motion for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the laws of mortmain, and the expediency of revising them. Sir James Graham had opposed a similar motion made by the noble lord last year, but was not prepared to say that no amendment of these laws should take place. He thought, however, that the House, and not a select committee, was the proper place for the deliberation of the subject. He therefore moved the previous question, which was carried without a division.

Sir James Graham stated that, in consequence of numerous alterations, the Factories bill should be re-committed, *pro forma*, in order to its being reprinted, with a view to the third reading on Friday next. Some discussion took place, after which the alterations were made preparatory to the re-printing of the bill.

Mr Sidney Herbert and Sir George Clerk are mentioned as candidates for the office of secretary at war, lately held by Sir Henry Hardinge. If Mr Herbert gets the appointment, rumour points to Mr Cardwell, of Clitheroe, as his successor.—*Globe*.

In the court of Queen's Bench, yesterday, the Solicitor-general moved for a rule to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against Mr Humfrey, for his speech defamatory of the Duke of Marlborough, at the late Woodstock election. Rule refused.

**BANK OF ENGLAND.**—A special court of proprietors of the bank of England was held yesterday for the purpose of considering the proposals of the government relative to the charter. The general discussion of this (Tuesday) morning, says the *Times*, there was very little to notice, most of the proprietors evidently reserving themselves for the adjourned meeting on Monday next, when they will have fortified themselves by a careful perusal of the correspondence which is ordered to be printed and distributed forthwith. In general the feeling was sufficiently amicable.

**SIR R. PEEL AND THE ART UNIONS.**—Yesterday a deputation of artists, headed by Mr Wyse, waited on Sir Robert Peel on this subject. Sir R. Peel stated that it appeared to him that it would be most expedient that a committee to consider this particular subject should be appointed, and recommended Mr Wyse to bring the matter forward.

**MAGNIFICENT NEW ROAD.**—Her Majesty's commissioners of woods and forests have decided on the plans to be carried into effect for the formation of a new avenue, to be called the Queen's road, extending from the Uxbridge road to High street, Kensington, being the site of the late Royal Kitchen-gardens. Twenty-one detached villas, on the noblest scale, have already been commenced upon either side, and each of these will be surrounded by

nearly an acre of garden ground. In the plans selected, all of which are in the pure Italian mode, are designs for mansions to be built in stone, in a style of grandeur not hitherto carried out in a public thoroughfare; and some of them contain upwards of 40 rooms, and in most are apartments *en suite* upwards of 100 feet in length.—*standard*.

**PRINCE ALBERT'S PLANTATIONS.**—In reference to the firing of upwards of 700 acres, noticed elsewhere, we find the following additional information in the daily papers:—The quantities of game, especially hares and pheasants, which have been destroyed, are immense. Hundreds of eggs of the latter have been consumed. A third fire broke out in another part of the same plantation on Friday last; but, timely assistance being at hand, it was fortunately subdued, but not before it had entirely destroyed all the firs and young oaks extending over more than five acres. Notwithstanding every effort has been made to discover the incendiaries, not the least traces of the guilty parties have been obtained.

**REPRESENTATION OF SOUTH LANCASHIRE.**—**MANCHESTER, TUESDAY.**—The death of Mr Wilbraham, one of the members for the northern district of this county, was a complete surprise to the inhabitants of this district. Immediately upon the truth becoming known, the Anti-corn-law League announced that they will bring forward a candidate upon free-trade principles. Who that candidate may be is at present all conjecture; but an impression exists that Lord Morpeth will be the man, if he should choose to "come out" fully on the question of free trade.—*Chronicle*.

**DESTRUCTION OF THE MANCHESTER THEATRE BY FIRE.**—This public edifice was almost totally consumed by fire yesterday morning, and all that was saved was a part of the wardrobe. While the firemen were at work, a large portion of the roof gave way, and fell upon Mr Ross and four or five of the men, one of whom was so much injured that he was obliged to be carried to the infirmary, where he now lies in a dangerous state. At half-past seven the building was entirely gutted, and nothing but a portion of the walls is now standing. The building of the theatre was insured for £4000 in the Imperial, and Mr Roxby, the manager, is insured to the extent of £600 or £700; but these amounts are far below the real loss.

**THE STATE TRIALS.**—The court of Queen's Bench at the hour of its opening was much crowded by the members of the bar and the public, who were in expectation that their lordships would have given judgment on the new trial motion in the state prosecution; but, as hour after hour was frittered away in the discussion of ordinary motions, destitute of the smallest interest, the galleries and barristers' seats became gradually deserted. At four o'clock the Court resumed its former crowded appearance, as it was confidently anticipated that some intimation of the kind would at least have been made before the rising of the Court, but at half-past four o'clock the Lord Chief Justice, interrupting Mr M'Donogh in an argument of no public interest, informed him that they could not permit him to proceed further that day. The Court was accordingly adjourned until Tuesday. It is now generally conceded by all parties that judgment on the verdict cannot be pronounced this term; and it is even considered to be within the range of probability that judgment on the new trial motion may also be postponed to next term, which commences on the 22nd of this month.—*Times*.

**SPAIN.**—The following is a list of the new ministry:—

General Narvaez, president of the council and minister at war.

The Marquis de Villuma, minister for foreign affairs.

M. Mon, minister of finance.

M. Pidal, minister of the interior.

M. Mayans, minister of justice.

General Armero, minister of marine.

It must excite some surprise to find Mon, the disciple of Torreno, a prudent and able man, joining in such a scheme, from which the leaders of his party, Isturitz, Miraflores, and others shrunk. But Mon lies at present dangerously ill, and was probably not consulted on his nomination. The other names composing the cabinet are men without the least weight. Pidal is the most respectable. But it is evident that, in his scheme for restoring the monarchy, Narvaez, although he may have got the church on his side, has not been able to reconcile or rally one influential member of the *noblesse*. Even the Marquis de Miraflores, so attached to Christina, refuses to countenance her present vagary.—*Chronicle*.

**PORTUGAL.**—A telegraphic despatch announces that Almeida capitulated on the 29th. Count de Bomfim, and a rather large "number of officers, are gone into Spain."

**ITALY.**—Letters from Bologna state that the sentences passed upon the last batch of the state prisoners, tried before the military commission for the part they took in the attempted rising at Bologna last year, have been confirmed by the Roman government. Among these prisoners are fourteen against whom sentence of death has been passed, for having taken part in an engagement between the people and the soldiery at Savigno, where a capital of carabiniers, four soldiers, and some volunteers were killed.

#### CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Pear	Flour
English ..	3860	1310	1890			
Scotch....						
Irish ....	..	..	1500			
Foreign ..	2810	9620	1450			

Wheat firm at Monday's rates. Barley and oats held rather higher, but not much business done.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. B. Mummery," "J. P.," "Amicus," "A Member of the Late Conference," received.  
 "An Anti-monopolist." We must now leave them to find out their mistake—counsel of this character only provokes.  
 "J. B." We cannot undertake to decide what had much better be submitted to a lawyer.  
 "W. R. A., St Helier's." The supplement of Monday next, will contain the reports of the London Missionary society.  
 "G." We have not room for further discussion on the subject.  
 "A Constant Reader." We have repeatedly reported instances of the kind.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.  
 For 7 lines....5s. Od. | For 10 lines....6s. Od.  
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Orders for the *Nonconformist* are received at the office, and by all booksellers and news-vendors. The terms of subscription, if paid in advance, are £1 6s. per annum. All communications for the Editor should be addressed to the office, No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1844.

WE beg to announce to our readers that an Extra Number of the *Nonconformist* will be published on MONDAY MORNING NEXT, containing a correct report of the annual meetings of the London Missionary Society, and others held during the week. The number for Monday last, containing a report of the proceedings of the Anti-state-church Conference, has been reprinted, and may be had of all booksellers and newsagents.

## SUMMARY.

ACCORDING to the indications afforded by the present and by late sessions of parliament, the House of Commons will have enough to do in legislating for the guardianship of its pet churches. Ecclesiastical subjects spring up as rapidly and as plentifully as mushrooms—and, in good sooth, every political question, now-a-days, must needs be ecclesiastically considered. Mr Fox Maule moved for leave, on Tuesday se'nnight, to bring in a bill for the abolition of those oaths which the legislative wisdom of former days threw as a chain across the doors of the Scotch universities, to keep out of the professors' chairs all men holding episcopal sentiments. The chain has been suffered to slacken, and many had stepped over it without remark from any party. The recent disruption, however, revived the bigotry which had long nestled and slumbered in the establishment, and the immediate consequence of its new-born zeal for presbyterian orthodoxy was to thrust Sir David Brewster, a man of European reputation, out of the doors of the university. This evil Mr Fox Maule sought to remedy—for the Free church is fully alive to the terrible mischief of intolerance whenever it happens to affect herself. But Mr Fox Maule was quite unsuccessful. The Scottish ecclesiastical establishment, according to ministers, needs the protection of oaths and tests all the more in consequence of its present misfortunes—and a majority of the House of Commons said "Amen" to the sentiment by their votes.

On Wednesday evening, Mr Thomas Duncombe made a lively assault upon the Masters and Servants bill. This projected measure, of which we gave some account in our last number, was introduced to the House under a kind of demi-official patronage. Its ostensible author was Mr Miles; its zealous god-father was Sir James Graham. Its claims, however, to the good-will of the House, somewhat awkwardly clashed with the benevolent professions put forward in support of the Ten-hours Factory bill. It was next to impossible that those who voted for the last, could knowingly and publicly give their vote to the first. The ministerialists, therefore, mustered but thinly; the opponents of the bill were collected by Mr Duncombe in unusual strength. The honourable member for Finsbury consequently achieved a signal triumph, and the second reading of the bill was refused by a majority of 43.

On Friday evening, on the order of the day for going into committee on the Factories bill, Mr Roebuck moved a resolution declaratory of the inexpediency of interfering with the power of adult labourers in factories to make contracts respecting the hours for which they should be employed. The House of Commons has set the fashion of decrying abstract principles. We shrewdly suspect, however, that three-fourths of the members of that assembly are as innocent of all knowledge of the real nature of abstract principles as the babe which opened its eyes for the first time last week to the light of day. Their mode of dealing with them is full of self-contradiction. They admit them to be true in theory, but contend that they are false in practice. They characterise them as justice on paper, but injustice in act. They allow them to constitute a proper standard of right, and declare,

at the same time, that the application of that standard in any instance is insufferable pedantry. As though a law could be true, considered as law, which is yet unfit to govern—as though the principle, which is but the essential expression of what all practice ought to be, becomes a nonentity from the first moment that practice begins. Interference with adult labour is unquestionably a step beyond the province of any well-regulated legislature. That there are evils calling aloud for interference cannot be disputed. But what does this prove? Not that the interference is good, but that that which creates the necessity for it is bad. The abstract principle does not become untrue; and, if its application is found to be unsafe, the cause must be sought, not in the natural inapplicability of the principle, but in the state of disorganisation to which previous intermeddling have reduced society. The mortified limb should by all means be amputated. Here is the abstract principle. A long course of quackery has rendered the patient unable to bear the amputation required. Does it become false, then, that amputation is the proper cure for mortification? Not at all. That is the law to which all practice ought to conform. If unwise tamperings of another kind have made it impracticable to carry out the law, the only remedy seems to be the adoption of an alternative system which, as speedily as possible, may render it prudent to apply it. Much twaddle was talked on this subject in the House of Commons, and Mr Roebuck's motion was finally disposed of by an adverse majority of 206.

Sir Robert Peel brought forward, on Monday evening last, his proposed measure in regard to the bank of England and banking generally throughout England and Wales. We have given a concise outline of his plan, together with the resolutions he proposed in a committee of the whole House, in another place. Comment we reserve for a future occasion.

Little of importance has been doing in the House of Lords. As a striking index to the progress of opinion, it may be noted, that Lord Cottenham's bill, entitled "The Creditors and Debtors bill," which entirely abolishes imprisonment for debt, and assimilates the case of insolvents to that of bankrupts, not merely found favour in the eyes of our patrician senators, but wrung from all parties an expression of warm approval. This relic of barbarism, consequently, we may at length hope to see quietly set aside. Lord Campbell's bill, the object of which is to stay the execution of a legal sentence for misdemeanour pending an appeal, was objected to by the Lord Chancellor, lest it should shield Mr O'Connell from final judgment; and on this paltry and personal ground alone, the measure was thrown out. The Dissenters' Chapels bill was considered in committee on Friday evening, and elicited from the Bishop of London a few rich specimens of ecclesiastical intolerance. He denounced the recognition of heresy by the state; but finding himself too weak to stay the progress of the measure, he left the house followed by the whole bench of bishops. Would that they might see it their duty never more to return!

The overland mail has arrived since our last, bringing with it news from India and China. The intelligence is not peculiarly striking or important in its character. Upon the main points of it, as well as upon the appointment of Sir Henry Hardinge as successor to Lord Ellenborough, in the governor-generalship of India, we have made some observations elsewhere.

We give insertion this week to a report of the annual meeting of the National Complete Suffrage Union at Birmingham. We rejoice to perceive that this great movement makes a noiseless but steady progression. We have received the annual report which was presented to the meeting, a somewhat lengthy document, for which it is impossible for us to find room this week. We shall give it in our next. Meanwhile, we beg to forewarn our readers that Mr Crawford's motion for leave to introduce a bill embodying all the points comprehended by the term "complete suffrage," will come on on Tuesday next, the 14th inst. We earnestly trust that every Complete Suffrage Association will be on the alert, and, without loss of time, memorialise those members of parliament with whom they may happen to be connected, to attend and give their support to the honourable member for Rochdale. We are glad to observe that the Birmingham town council have resolved, by a majority of five of its members, to petition parliament on behalf of complete suffrage. Are there no other municipal bodies in the kingdom prepared to follow up this noble example? and if not, why not? Let the municipal electors look to it in their respective localities, and before long, Birmingham will cease to be solitary in this matter.

## PROPOSED BANKING REFORMS.

THE intentions of government in relation to the Bank of England, and to banking generally, in England and Wales, were submitted to the House of Commons, on Monday evening last, in a speech which occupied the premier three hours in the

delivery. We shall content ourselves this week with giving as clear an outline as we are able of the projected measure of reform, reserving our opinions upon it until another and more fitting opportunity shall occur.

Rejecting as unsafe the proposal to establish a single bank of issue under the control of government, Sir Robert Peel intends to work with such instruments as he finds ready to his hand, or in other words to leave untouched the present privileges of the Bank of England. The monopoly is to remain; modified only in some of the arrangements whereby its duties are to be regulated. Between the two departments, however, of *issue*, and of *banking*, now managed by the same parties, there is, in future, to be a complete separation—the banking business is to be administered upon a principle altogether different from that which is to regulate the business of issue—each is to have its separate staff of officers, and a different system of keeping its accounts.

The issue department will be thus conducted. The issues are to take place on two foundations only—a definite amount of securities, and bullion actually in its coffers—the power to issue notes on deposits, and on the discount of bills, will be abrogated. The whole amount of bullion now in possession of the bank will be transferred to the issue department—and upon this, and £14,000,000, of fixed securities, the future circulation will be based, and a weekly account of the issue of notes, of the amount of bullion, and of its fluctuations, will be published.

The banking department will have placed to its credit the whole amount of notes which the issue department is by law entitled to utter, and will then be governed by precisely the same principles in regard to its issue, as any other body dealing with Bank of England notes. It also will publish a weekly account of its transactions.

The distinction between the business of issue and of banking is to be applied to other banks—the first is to be under restriction and control—the last is to be open to free competition. In the business of banking there is to be no monopoly. Existing banks of issue are not to be deprived of the privileges they now enjoy—but from this time, no new bank of issue is to be constituted—nor are the existing banks to be allowed to issue more than the average of their issues during the last two or three years.

The joint-stock banks are to have the privilege of suing and being sued. The acts of individual directors are to bind the whole concern, but those of unauthorised partners are not, as now, to be visited upon the rest. The joint-stock banks in London are to be placed upon a footing of perfect equality with all other banks in regard to the power of acceptance—and whereas, they cannot at present accept bills for a shorter date than six months, they are to be competent hereafter to do so for any amount, and for any period. If, however, they should be found to abuse the privilege, government will not hesitate to apply to parliament for the purpose of correcting the evil.

All banks of issue are to be compelled periodically and frequently to publish the names of all the partners in their banks, and also the amounts of their notes put into circulation—and joint-stock banks are in like manner to publish a statement of their issues of promissory notes. But the publication of a balance sheet is not to be insisted on—the security which it offers being deemed by government to be delusive—neither is a *minimum* to be set to the value of shares—nor are existing banks to be required to invest a portion of their paid-up capital in government securities. But with banks hereafter to be constituted some precautionary regulations will be adopted. Henceforth no new bank is to be created without the sanction of government, in order to registration, a defined form of trust deed, and a regular audit of accounts.

With the banking system of Ireland and Scotland, Sir Robert Peel does not propose to interfere at present, save to this extent—that no new banks of issue are to be constituted in either country, and that future joint stock banks are to be subjected to the new regulations.

The bargain with the Bank of England is as follows. The fixed security for its future issues, amounting to £14,000,000, consists of £11,000,000, the debt owing to it by government, and the remaining £3,000,000 of exchequer bills and other government securities. The circulation may be pushed beyond this £14,000,000, but not without the consent of three members of the government, and all profit on that increased issue is to be transferred to the state. The legal tender clause is to be still continued—the charter is to remain for twenty-one years, subject, however, to the interference of parliament at the end of the next ten years, on notice given: and although by the new plan, the profit of the Bank on its issue will be largely curtailed, the amount paid by government for the management of the national debt will not be increased.

We here insert the resolutions which were passed *pro forma* by the House of Commons on Monday night—

"1. That it is expedient to continue to the Bank of England, for a time to be limited, certain of the privileges now by law vested in that corporation, subject to such conditions as may be provided by any act to be passed for that purpose.

"2. That it is expedient to provide by law that the Bank of England should henceforth be divided into two separate departments—one exclusively confined to the issue and circulation of notes—the other to the conduct of banking business.

"3. That it is expedient to limit the amount of securities upon which it shall henceforth be lawful for the Bank of England to issue promissory notes payable to bearer on demand, and that such amount shall only be increased under certain conditions to be prescribed by law.

"4. That it is expedient to provide by law that a weekly publication should be made by the Bank of England of the state both of the circulation and of the banking departments.

"5. That it is expedient to repeal the law which subjects the notes of the Bank of England to the payment of the composition of stamp duty.

"6. That in consideration of the privileges to be continued to the Bank of England, the rate of fixed annual payment to be paid by the Bank to the public shall be £180,000 per annum, and shall be defrayed by deducting the said sum from the sum now by law payable to the Bank for the management of the public debt.

"7. That in the event of any increase of the securities upon which it shall be lawful for the Bank of England to issue such promissory notes as aforesaid, a further annual payment shall be made by the Bank of England to the public, over and above the said fixed payment of £180,000, equal in amount to the net profit derived from the promissory notes issued on such additional securities.

"8. That it is expedient to prohibit by law the issue of promissory notes payable to bearer on demand by any bank not now issuing such notes, or by any bank hereafter to be established in any part of the United Kingdom.

"9. That it is expedient to provide by law that such banks in England and Wales as now issue promissory notes payable to bearer on demand shall continue to issue such notes, subject to such conditions and to such limitations as to the amount of issue as may be provided for by any act to be passed for that purpose.

"10. That it is expedient to provide by law for the weekly publication of the amount of promissory notes payable to bearer on demand, circulated by any bank authorised to issue such notes.

"11. That it is expedient to make further provision by law with regard to joint stock banking companies."

#### PARLIAMENTARY INTERFERENCE WITH LABOUR.

DURING the debate upon the Factory bill on Friday night, the discussion turned upon the nature of great principles—a subject which we had imagined our worthy legislators had long since consigned to the regions of forgetfulness. Whether that discussion has thrown any new or strong light upon the matter, or whether it only served to darken counsel by a multitude of words, may well admit of doubt. So far as we can collect the purport of this debate, we are short-sighted enough to imagine, that, as usual in that assembly, (stripping the whole thing of its wordy dress), there was a manifest compromise of principle for expediency's sake. Lord Howick admitted the principle as laid down by Adam Smith, but denied its application to the case in hand. Sir Robert Peel allowed vital principles in morality and religion, yet strangely seemed to separate them from political truth—as though all sound political principles were not founded upon the eternal principles of truth itself, which no parliamentary tact or jugglery could for a moment disunite. Would the statesmen of this great empire but disembarrow acknowledged principles from perpetual and puerile legislation—would they but allow them, whether in commerce, in religion, or even in the case of labour, to find their own level—work out their sure and beneficial effects, without throwing obstacles in the way, the great political evils under which the nation groans would soon be removed. The statesmen of the earth will legislate to excess. They will be doing what the great Author of all right principle never intended them to do. Instead of cutting out the channels in which these principles may safely and beneficially run, they dam them up here, or drain them off there, to subserve the purposes of a class or a party. Would that this were the worst—that no greater violence had been done to these vital things. Would that rude and lawless hands had never intentionally attempted their subversion; and that falsehood had never been pushed forward as their miserable substitute. We are verily sick of so corrupt an assembly talking about principles, and no way surprised when the whole thing dwindles down into a mawkish expediency. To care rightly for the labourer or the artizan, is to find him a free market for his energies; but having restricted them for class purposes, it is driveling indeed, to pretend a pious concern lest those energies should be overworked. This is protection with a witness; protection, first from a healthy unfettered market, and then a further protection—to protect from those very evils which the first protection wrought. This is the real state of the case. This lies at the bottom of the new and wondrous sympathy of our aristocratic legislature for the overworked artizan. Would it not, however, be as right and kind to deprive men of sufficient food to sustain a robust health, and then in-

terfere to prevent their honest although exhausting attempt to obtain it? Would there be less injustice perpetrated than would occur should we fence off from the mind the most available sources of knowledge, and then gravely step in to quench an exhausting and unmitigated ardour in its pursuit? Experience, a hard-earned experience, should have taught the working men of this country to be very suspicious of the strange concern evinced, with respect to the mere time of their labour. The tears shed over their woes look very much like those of the crocodile. Well does the legislature know, that having crippled the labour market by a false protection, it is also necessary to cripple the spirit of murmur and remonstrance which must necessarily follow. Let the working man look at the thing in the honest light of principle, and he will lightly esteem a movement which only serves to perpetuate one injustice by the sinister infliction of another, although, forsooth, under a benevolent plea. Let us but obtain our political rights, and all these minor evils will adjust themselves.

#### THE WORM FOR THE GOURD.

THE intelligence received by the regular overland mail, which arrived on Saturday night, is a pregnant illustration of the instability of our Indian empire, and of the retribution which sooner or later overtakes those who seek the accomplishment of their selfish purpose by deeds of violence and bloodshed. A serious spirit of insubordination has manifested itself among the native troops on their route to Scinde, arising out of the discontinuance of the extra batta or subsistence money hitherto allowed them—their just dread of the unhealthiness of that climate—and certain religious scruples against crossing the Indus. The troops refuse to march. Delay ensues. At last concessions are made to ensure their obedience. Additional pay denied before is now promised; and £50,000 (for such is the estimated amount of the bribe) is not thought too great a sacrifice to induce the sepoys to advance to the protection of the conquered territory.

This event, although serious in itself, derives its chief importance from the consequences to which it seems likely to lead. We employ the natives as mercenaries, not merely to defend our empire in the East, but to rob and destroy their fellow-countrymen not yet subjugated to British rule. We have initiated them into all the guilty usages of war and rapine. 150,000 natives have by us been disciplined and armed to assist in extending our Indian empire. And these men, with the lust of power and conquest enkindled and inflamed within them, are bound to us by no ties but that of the lowest and most sordid character. Fear, and the love of money alone, make them our tools. The former we have diminished, the latter we have stimulated, by yielding to their demands. The prestige of our power is gone; and we have in the most emphatic manner taught the sepoys the value of their services, and the sacrifices which are worth making to retain them.

We confess that the prospect before us makes us tremble. We cannot shut our eyes to the conclusion which this fact indicates. British power is nurturing the viper which will eventually sting it to death. Our sway in India becomes the less firm the more it is increased in extent. "To move," says the *Times*, "the landmarks of so huge an empire further from the central seat of council, of government, and of succour, must always be a matter of some risk, and no little cost. The difficulties of empire do not increase merely in proportion to an increase of territory, but in a multiple ratio. The larger the circle becomes, the less free is the play of the central power, the less tight the tension of the governing agency." And yet our rulers seem bent on increasing these difficulties, by rushing headlong in their mad career of conquest. To this policy they appear to have anew pledged themselves, by the appointment of Sir Henry Hardinge—an exclusively military man, and the intimate friend of the Duke of Wellington—as governor-general of India, in the room of Lord Ellenborough. New conquests will render absolutely necessary the employment of additional native troops, to protect the acquired territories, and thus the British empire in the East will become increasingly dependent upon the number and fidelity of those who are predisposed by birth and education, to become its enemies. The result seems inevitable. If we continue to extend our empire, we infallibly increase our weakness. If we stop short in our onward course, what is to become of the vast armies whom we have made drunk with conquest? We need not point out the awful contingencies arising from sudden outbreaks in distant parts of the empire, the distribution throughout the country of thousands of troops conscious of their physical power, deadened to all moral feeling by a long course of bloodshed and rapine, and inspired with the most mercenary feelings. Well may the *Times* exclaim in reference to the possibility of this event—

"The praetorian bands never knew their own importance, until they were bought by the munificent candidates for the imperial purple. From the satellites, they became the dispensers of power. It is a truly perilous

thing to teach men how much they are worth in money. The troops now on the banks of the Indus will long remember the fear with which their first stubbornness inspired the rulers of their country; nor will they forget the means by which it was eventually softened."

Such is the retribution with which Providence, sooner or later, visits violence and injustice; and such the probable consequence of a system which British Christians, by their unbecoming apathy, have for years past practically sanctioned.

#### METROPOLITAN.

ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The usual weekly meeting of the League took place on Wednesday at Covent Garden theatre. The attendance was numerous. Lord Kinnaird was called to the chair, and received with much enthusiasm. Mr Ricardo, M.P.; Mr Somers, a Somersetshire tenant-farmer; and Mr Cobden, were the speakers. The latter challenged the Duke of Richmond, who said he had all the farmers with him, to answer the speeches of Messrs Hunt, Latimer, and Jenner, as well as those of other tenant farmers who had given in their adhesion to the League.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE AID AND BENEFIT OF DRESS-MAKERS AND MILLINERS.—A public meeting of this association was held at twelve o'clock on Saturday last, at the Hanover Square Rooms, for the purpose of receiving a report of its proceedings during the few months that have elapsed since its formation. There was a very full attendance of the nobility and ladies and gentlemen who have taken a lively interest in the promotion of the objects of this institution. Among them were the Duchess of Sutherland, Lady Francis Egerton, Lady Ashley, Viscountess Jocelyn, Viscountess Howick, Lady Georgiana S. Wortley, Lady Georgiana Bathurst, Lady Pirie, Lord Ashley, the Earl of Arundel and Surrey, Lord Dudley Stuart, Lord Lovaine, Lord F. Egerton, the Hon. W. Ashley, the Hon. W. Cowper, the Hon. Captain Knox, R.N., &c. &c. Lord Ashley was called to the chair, and briefly stated the objects of the association:—

First, to induce the principals of dress-making and millinery establishments to limit the hours of actual work to twelve hours per diem, and to abolish, in all cases, working on Sundays. Second, to promote an improved system of ventilation, by diffusing correct information upon this most important subject; and by affording, when required by the principals, advice and assistance towards the attainment of this object. Third, to aid in obviating the serious evils connected with the present system, by inducing ladies to allow sufficient time for the execution of orders, and to encourage those establishments which zealously co-operate in carrying out the objects of the association. Fourth, to open a book at the office where the names and addresses of young persons of good character and capacity will be entered free of expense, to meet the inquiries of employers seeking additional assistants, especially in the busy season. Fifth, to afford pecuniary assistance to deserving young persons, in cases of temporary distress or difficulty. Sixth, to afford to such young persons as require it, early and effective medical advice, change of air, and other assistance, in case of sickness. Seventh, to form in connexion with the association a provident fund.

In the course of his remarks, Lord Ashley said— We have also obtained assistance from the heads of many of the great wholesale establishments of this metropolis, who have come forward and liberally contributed pecuniary aid, and tendered their, what I am sure will prove, most effective co-operation. Among others, I may mention Mr Redmayne, Messrs Halling, Pearce, and Stone, Mr Cox, Messrs Harding, Smith, and Co., Mr Lewis, Messrs Swan and Edgar, Messrs Tinkler and Co., Messrs Roberts and Son; and many other gentlemen in that department of business, all of whom have very liberally contributed to our funds.

Mr GRAINGER then read the report, which expressed the gratification of the committee at the very liberal support they had already obtained, and especially the sanction of so many gentlemen practically acquainted with the present system. The committee expressed an earnest hope that ladies would not withdraw their patronage and support from those dress-makers and milliners who, from conscientious motives, temporarily decline orders, which could only be executed at the expense of much suffering and distress. With the view of doing justice to these parties, and at the same time to give a practical application to an important principle of the association, a list would be kept at the office for the inspection of subscribers, of those employers who had given a pledge to make every exertion to shorten the hours of work, and otherwise ameliorate the existing system. For the purpose of providing extra assistance to principals in the fashionable season, a book was opened at the office, in which had been entered the names of 228 young persons, 55 of whom had been provided with situations. Among the speakers were Lord Lovaine, George Finch, Esq., Lord Dudley Stuart, and Mr G. Redmayne. Rules for the guidance of the institution were adopted; and Lord Ashley was appointed president, and various noblemen and gentlemen vice-presidents. A ladies' and gentlemen's committee was also chosen. In the list of subscribers appended to the report, are the names of fifteen duchesses, fourteen marchionesses, fifty-three countesses, thirteen viscountesses, and upwards of two hundred other ladies of title, besides a great number of ladies of high rank in the country.

ILLEGAL IMPRISONMENT.—Several working men have lately been imprisoned at Derby, Leicester, and Wakefield, for neglect of work. The matter has, during the past week, been brought before the Court of Queen's bench, where Mr Roberts has succeeded in obtaining a rule absolute for the discharge of the men. It is probable that an action will be brought against the justices who committed the prisoners, for false imprisonment.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

The thirtieth annual meeting of this society was held yesterday in the great room of Exeter hall. Lord J. Russell, M.P., presided.

The centre of the hall was densely crowded by dissenters and members of the Society of Friends; and amongst those on the platform we observed Lord Monteagle; Admiral Sir E. Codrington; Sir C. Lemon, Bart, M.P.; Mr D. Barclay, M.P.; Mr S. Marjoribanks, M.P.; Mr C. Hindley, M.P.; Mr S. Gurney; Mr W. Tooke; Mr J. Burnett; Dr Morrison; Mr J. Shurman, a German missionary from Benares; Mr W. Arthur, from Mysore, &c.

The noble CHAIRMAN, after briefly explaining the origin and objects of the society, proceeded to say that at no time within his recollection had the great cause which they were then assembled to advocate been brought before the public under such favourable auspices, or with so fair a prospect of a happy issue. The propriety of educating the people was no longer a problematical question. Men of all parties were agreed as to its necessity, however much they differed as to the mode in which it could be most effectually accomplished. Upon that point those who formed this institution had never entertained any doubt whatever. They had long felt the want of a system of education which should comprehend every denomination of persons, and their only difficulty was how that want was to be remedied. They had two points to consider. The first was the existing means—the next, the inadequacy of those means, and in what way that deficiency could be supplied. They found that the state, as a state, took no charge of the education of the people. The church, if it had the inclination, had not the means wherewith to establish a great national system; but even if it had these means, there were many without the pale of the church who were not likely to avail themselves of such a provision, for reasons to which he should not then more particularly advert. It was proper here to remark, that there were endowments applicable to educational purposes, which might perhaps have been made available, but owing to the will of the founders it was found impossible to apply those funds in practically useful manner; they did not apply to the purposes of general education. It was, therefore, found necessary to provide a substitute by means of voluntary subscriptions. That society had grown up out of the voluntary principle. Amongst its earliest supporters were his late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, his late Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, whose death they had recently to deplore, his own lamented father, the Duke of Bedford, Lord Brougham, and that great and good man, William Allen, whose benevolence and philanthropy had, through a long and useful life, associated him with every institution which had for its object the improvement of mankind. It was under such auspices that the society had commenced operations. Its objects were, in the first place, to provide the people with the means of scriptural instruction; in the next, to secure to them the advantages of secular knowledge. The next question was, how these ends could be attained so as to include the greatest number of the people? As had been truly observed, the people of England were a protestant people—it was no less true that the Bible was the religion of the protestants; therefore, by giving them the Bible, in that sense all could unite. With respect to secular education, he saw no reason why it should not be carried to the greatest extent, provided the means were adequate. The society had existed, he believed, thirty-eight years, and during that time great improvements had taken place; owing to the example set by the society schools were established where they had not previously existed. In three or four years after the formation of that society the church interested itself in the cause; the schools of the National Education Society were formed, he would not say in rivalry, but they were put in juxtaposition with those of that society. During the last year the means of education had been considerably increased, the details of which would be learned from the report. The efforts made by public bodies had stimulated individual exertion; and here he had the happiness to inform the meeting that his Royal Highness Prince Albert, whose enlightened views on the subject of education must endear him to the people of this country, had contributed a donation of £100 to be applied to the purposes of the society [loud cheers]. His (Lord J. Russell's) brother, the president of the society, had also sent his annual subscription of 100 guineas [cheers]. In conclusion, the noble lord expressed his ardent hope that the society would go on and prosper—that by giving the word of God with sound and useful knowledge to the poor child, he might become worthy of a Christian country and a free state.

The SECRETARY then read the report, which commenced with a tribute of respect to the services of the late Mr W. Allen, the treasurer, and announced that Mr S. Gurney had accepted that office. During the past year 781 boys and 450 girls had been admitted into the parent school in the Borough road. The total number received since the commencement were—27,140 boys, and 16,162 girls; total, 43,303. The normal schools were represented to be in a state of great efficiency. The report then adverted to the society's foreign operations in France, Russia, Greece, Belgium, Sweden, Canada, Africa, the East and West Indies, &c.

Mr S. GURNEY read the financial statement. The receipts of the year (including her Majesty's annual subscription of £100, and £100 donation from the Fishmongers' company) amounted to £1,081 1s. There was a balance of £604 in favour of the so-

society at the beginning of the year, to meet liabilities amounting to £840.

Lord MONTEAGLE moved the adoption of the report. The principle wisely adopted by the society was to afford the means of education without the compromise of conscientious feeling. They were only following out, in that respect, the fundamental principles of the reformation. No man was called upon to surrender the right of private judgment, but so to use his privileges as not to offend the judgment of others.

Sir C. LEMON, in seconding the motion, observed that there was one part of the report in which he did not agree. It was said that a system of national and combined education was hopeless. He trusted that such a system would yet prevail.

Mr G. CLAYTON moved the next resolution, expressive of congratulation at the extensive efforts made by the different denominations of Christians in favour of elementary education. He was not disposed to treat education in the light of a denominational question. The ministers of religion, no matter of what creed, were not likely to have worse hearers from the enlightenment of the people. He trusted that he should live to see one general system, without any compromise of the rights of conscience. Sectarianism was bad enough in adults, but the young should not be made to regard each other with antipathy.

Mr J. SHEPHERD seconded the motion.

Mr W. ARTHUR, in moving the next resolution, pledging the meeting to increased efforts for the promotion of education in foreign countries, and in the British colonies more especially, entered into details relating to the state of education in British India, where he stated the grossest ignorance prevails.

Mr A. SHURMAN, from Benares, who seconded the motion, bore testimony to the degraded state of ignorance in the Indian empire.

Mr J. BURNETT moved that the respectful thanks of the meeting be accorded to her Majesty for her gracious patronage of the society, and to his Royal Highness Prince Albert for his munificent donation. He said that the church had offered to take the trouble of educating the people off the society's hands; but as they had preferred adhering to the voluntary principle, it was the duty of the society to exert itself in that good cause. He was not inclined to blame Sir James Graham for having set them the task; but the state would have a just right to condemn them, should they leave the country uneducated.

Sir E. CODRINGTON seconded the motion.

Mr D. BARCLAY, M.P., moved a vote of thanks to his Grace the Duke of Bedford, as president of the society, and to Lord John Russell for taking the chair on that occasion.

Mr W. TOOKE seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

Lord J. RUSSELL acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting separated.

JUSTICES' JUSTICE.—A soldier makes improper advances to a respectable woman in the streets; she retreats into her house, locking her door after her; the ruffian breaks the door down, and assaults her, threatening to murder her if she does not yield to his wishes. The fellow, in his defence, says that he was very drunk, and of course very sorry for what he had done.

Mr Jardine admonished the defendant on the gross impropriety of his conduct, but, taking into consideration his drunkenness and regret at having been guilty of the offence, he should only inflict the penalty of 10s., with the amount of damage done to the door in breaking it open."

Soldiers and all others disposed for outrage will learn from this truly edifying example, how necessary it is to get drunk when they set about any act of violence. Sobriety aggravates an offence, while drunkenness covers more sins than charity. Drunkenness has this virtue too, that it both works a man up for outrage, and procures indulgence for him when he has committed it. It fits for the crime, and it fits for the pardon of it.—*Examiner.*

HUNGERFORD AND LAMBETH SUSPENSION BRIDGE.—The piers and buttresses, and other necessary works for the erection of this bridge, under the superintendence of Mr R. Brunel, engineer of the Great Western railway, are just completed, and this important junction of Lambeth with the west end of the metropolis, will soon be carried into effect, as the placing of the chains, and the bridge itself, will be commenced in the early part of next week, and it is confidently expected that the bridge will be opened to the public in less than three months from that time.

TRAFALGAR SQUARE.—The boarding has at length been removed, and public curiosity has been gratified by a view of this noble promenade. Among the most striking objects in the centre are the two fountains. The walls are of granite, and the basements are laid in Maude's Portland cement. The jets will be about sixty feet in height. The Artesian wells have been sunk to the depth of two hundred feet; and, from that at the back of the National gallery, to the one in the front of it, the workmen are proceeding to make a tunnel completely under that structure. The area of the square is laid in bitumen, the sombre appearance of which is relieved by the ornamental work in the Portland cement. There is also a star of the same material in the centre, and a light and pleasing effect is produced by the way in which the cement and bitumen are blended together. In a few days the equestrian statue of George III. will be removed from its present site to the vacant pedestal at the west end of the terrace in Trafalgar square. Trafalgar square is the first open place or piazza, properly so called, like those of the continental cities, made in London; which has hitherto been without that imposing and agreeable feature.

THE WILL FORGERIES.—At the Mansion house, on Thursday, Mr Cope, the governor of Newgate gaol, appeared before the Lord Mayor, to contradict a report industriously circulated, that Barber's fellow prisoners had declared him to be innocent. Barber had tried, through Mr Cope and the chaplain, to obtain their signatures to a declaration of the kind. When asked if she would sign it, Mrs Dorey replied, "Certainly not, for Mr Barber knew all about it; I cannot sign anything of the kind." The others made similar answers, except Mrs Sanders, who said that she had only once seen Mr Barber, and that was in his professional capacity.

FEASTING THE BISHOPS.—On Thursday, a splendid entertainment was given by the Lord Mayor to the archbishop and bishops, after the performance of divine service at St Paul's on behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. The entertainment took place in the Egyptian hall, which has been recently fitted up and embellished. The archbishop of Canterbury, the bishop of London, and the archbishop of Armagh, were the principal speakers; the latter speaking chiefly on the subject of the Irish church. The welfare of the church of England was intimately connected with that of its sister church across the Irish sea, and any blow aimed at the one, was a blow also directed against the other.

ACCIDENT ON WATERLOO BRIDGE.—Shortly after twelve o'clock on Friday night, a chaise, containing three parties, passed through the gate on the Middlesex side, where the toll should have been paid, at a rapid rate. The collector, in attempting to stop the chaise, was knocked down, and seriously hurt; the chaise came in contact with one of the Waterloo omnibuses, was turned over with great violence, and a lad named Hollis was seriously injured. A female who was passing at the time was also hurt. The lad was conveyed to Guy's hospital, but little hopes were entertained of his recovery. The chaise was broken to atoms, and the owner, who was drunk, is in custody.

At Marlborough street police office, on Thursday, a masculine woman, who called herself Somebridge, was charged with threatening to stab a constable, belonging to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, in Pall Mall. In very incoherent language, the woman declared herself to be the Queen of England. She was remanded, to be taken care of in St James's workhouse.

Some person, supposed to be one of the itinerant heath-cutters, set fire to Prince Albert's plantations at Bagshot, on Wednesday morning; and by Thursday morning, the vegetation on 700 acres was consumed. The flames still made way, and threatened to destroy the whole of the valuable oaks and firs.

## PROVINCIAL.

## THE EDUCATION MOVEMENT.

On Monday, the 29th ult., the Stockport British and Infant schools were publicly opened. The attendance was numerous and respectable, the mayor (Cephas Howard, Esq.) presiding. On the platform were several influential gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood, some of whom took part in the proceedings. The school is founded upon the principles as pronounced by the British and Foreign School Society; it is the only public day school in Stockport. There will be accommodation for 180 infants, 100 boys, and 100 girls. Among the gentlemen present were ministers and laymen of various denominations, including Messrs Thornton, Baker, and Waddington. A deficiency to the amount of £118 still remains on the building, but before the meeting separated £50 was subscribed. In the course of the proceedings it was stated that there were 10,000 children receiving Sunday school instruction in Stockport, being a proportion considerably more than in the counties of Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Derbyshire.

On the same day, a day school on the plan of the British and Foreign School Society, was opened in Ilkeston, Derbyshire. At nine o'clock the doors were opened, and the master, assisted by other gentlemen, commenced the work of admission, when 90 scholars were admitted into the institution. It is peculiarly pleasing to see that this educational movement is patronised and supported by all the dissenting communities in the town. As a proof of this it might be mentioned that the ministers of the respective congregations attended and took a part in the opening of the school.

A numerous and respectable meeting was also held on Monday evening, at Oxford place chapel, Leeds, to promote the extension of religious education on Wesleyan principles, in connexion with the Leeds second circuit; John Howard, Esq., in the chair. £300 was subscribed in addition to £309 already sent in aid of the general fund.

The congregational church at Upper Solva, South Wales, under the pastoral care of Mr T. Mortimer, having petitioned against the absurd bill of Sir James Graham to church-of-Englandize the nation, have formed themselves into a committee, and are resolved to raise £30 annually for the education of poor and destitute children. An energetic plan has been put in operation for the establishment of a day school, to be conducted on a general plan of education, and a piece of ground adjoining the chapel has been gratuitously given by Thomas Reymond, Esq., magistrate. The school has been commenced in the chapel; upwards of 60 children have already been admitted.

On Monday, the 29th ult., a day school on the principle of the British and Foreign School Society, in connexion with Wood street chapel, Barnet, was publicly opened. A highly respectable company assembled in the school room to celebrate the event,

among whom were, the family of B. Smith, Esq., of Dancers hill, Mr Moore, Wittenhall, &c. The meeting was opened by the singing of a hymn, after which, Mr J. W. Wagnie, of Hitchin, engaged in prayer. The chairman, J. H. Paget, Esq., of Totteridge, opened the proceedings with an appropriate speech, and was succeeded by J. Wood, Esq., of Totteridge, and the following ministers, Messrs A. Steward, J. W. Wagnie, Q. Temple, of Bedwell park, and J. M. Charlton, B.A., of Totteridge. At six o'clock, 150 friends sat down to a well regulated tea, after which the meeting was resumed in the chapel. The collections, including the tea tickets, amounted to £13.

The congregation at Square chapel, Halifax, having completed the enlargement of their school rooms, with additional accommodation for seven vestry classes, at an expense considerably exceeding £600, last Lord's day opening sermons were preached by Mr R. Bayley, F.A.S., Principal of the People's college, Sheffield, and Mr A. Ewing, M.A., minister of the chapel, when the collections amounted to the very liberal sum of £220, as the first instalment towards the educational fund. A teacher is engaged from the Borough road school, and a day school will be opened early in May.

A public meeting of the friends of education, to unite with the movement now made by the congregational body for the education of the people, especially by promoting its objects in the county of Gloucestershire and its districts, was held at the Subscription rooms, Stroud, on Friday evening, April 12th. The attendance was good, and the proceedings went off with spirit. S. S. Marling, Esq., of Ebley, took the chair. C. Hindley, Esq., M.P., kindly attended as a deputation from the central committee. Dr Reed was also expected, but did not come. Resolutions on the subject were unanimously passed; one of which was to the following effect:—

"That this meeting approves of the mode of subscription recommended, as co-operating with other valuable educational institutions, especially the British and Foreign School Society, and sympathises with the denominational movement, particularly as it proposes education in no set form or sectarian creed, but in the common acknowledged truths of the Bible, and as it will excite a more efficient inspection and a deeper interest in connexion with the various schools."

Among the gentlemen who addressed the meeting were C. Hindley, Esq., M.P., J. Partridge, Esq., and the following ministers—Messrs Burder, Wheeler, Parsons, Smith, Backhouse, and Durden. The following subscriptions were announced during the meeting:—W. Marling, Esq., £100; N. S. Marling, Esq., £100; S. S. Marling, Esq., £100; Rev. J. Burder, £50; Mr J. Partridge, £50; Mr E. H. Durden, £50; Rev. R. Backhouse, £50; Mr Lacey, £40; Rev. W. Wheeler, £25; Rev. W. Smith, £25; Mr Cartwright, £20; and others, to the amount of £650. It is confidently expected that the amount will be raised to £1000.

A similar meeting was also held at Gloucester, on the preceding Wednesday, when more than £200 were subscribed.

**HORSHAM ELECTION.**—The election of a member for Horsham, in the room of Mr Scarlett, took place at that borough, on Wednesday. The only candidate was Mr Robert Henry Hurst, of Horsham park; who has twice before represented the borough, and possesses much local influence. He is a whig in politics. He was proposed and seconded by two members of the Anti-corn-law League: who spoke of him as not going so far as themselves, but his proposer said that he would fairly represent the general political feeling of the borough. He was declared duly elected.

**ABINGDON ELECTION.**—The ex-member of the house of Blenheim, Mr Thesiger, has been taken under the patronage of Mr Duffield, who has vacated his seat for the borough of Abingdon, for the purpose of letting in the new Solicitor-general. The learned gentleman has issued an address to the electors. It is expected that a gentleman of liberal principles will contest the borough against Mr Thesiger.

**WEST RIDING UNION OF MECHANICS' INSTITUTES.**—An event of no common interest, and one which is a hopeful sign of the times, took place at Wakefield last week. This was a gathering of delegates from the various Mechanics' Institutes in the West Riding of Yorkshire, with the view of promoting an interchange of opinions and greater efficiency in the management of the individual institutions. Lord Morpeth, with his usual alacrity in promoting the social improvement of his fellow countrymen, attended on the occasion. On the morning of Wednesday a business meeting of the delegates was held. The report contained the following interesting particulars:—

The union now comprises 20 institutions, four of which have only joined this year, and their reports were, consequently, incomplete. The number of members contained in the others, last year, was 3,096; this year, 4,581, being an increase of 675. The four newly joined institutes contain nearly 500 members. In thirteen institutes, whose reports were complete, and which have 4415 members, 1171 attended the evening classes; their libraries contained 20,859 volumes, and the issues during the year amounted to 103,960. The number of lectures delivered was 238.

In the evening a grand soiree took place at the Corn Exchange, when about 1,000 persons were present, including a large proportion of ladies. Lord Morpeth presided, and W. B. Hodgson, Esq., the indefatigable secretary of the Liverpool Mechanics' Institute, was also present. The noble chairman delivered an elegant and appropriate address, of which the following extracts are specimens:—

I look upon mechanics' institutes as both a creation and a type of the days in which we live; the influences of which they were born, and of which they breathe, are

wholly of modern growth [hear, hear]. The time was when, in the immediate neighbourhood of the place where we are now met, the opposing armies of the rival Roses were drawn up in menacing array, and soon mixed in murderous conflict. But now, gentlemen, instead of such a competition between us and our good brethren of Lancaster, the objects of our rivalry are, the number and excellence of our respective mechanics' institutes [applause]. This is, you will agree with me, a far better sight to exhibit in the eyes of heaven and the world than the brawls between the troopers of Warwick and the retainers of Clifford, when baron was hewing at baron, and franklin hacking at franklin; these revolting scenes, however, have left no other memorial than the exquisite little chapel on the bridge which spans your now peaceful Calder [applause], raised to make propitiation for the souls of the slaughtered—and the days of the barons are become the days of mechanics' institutes [renewed applause]. In your busy and engrossing occupations, toiling at your daily task, and for your daily bread, you may certainly be without those opportunities and aids to advancement in learning or in discovery which belong to studious ease, or to learned leisure, but it was not from these quarters that the most brilliant contributions to human advancement have been always made; it was not from these classes that Watt, or Brindley, or Fulton, or Burns, or Chantrey, came [Hear, hear, and applause]. In my travels on the great continent of North America, I chanced to fall in with a blacksmith of one of the interior states, who, while he most assiduously performed all the requirements of his calling, accomplished the mastery so as to be perfectly able to read about fifty languages [hear]. I have just put down an extract which was made from the journal of this blacksmith linguist [hear, hear]. It is a diary of his daily business for five days, taken by chance, in the course of the year. The extract is from the common-place book of Elihu Burritt, in 1838. "June 5th—read 50 lines of Hebrew, 37 of Celtic; six hours of forging. June 6th—read 37 lines of Hebrew, 40 of Celtic; six hours of forging. June 7th—read 60 lines of Hebrew, 60 lines of Celtic, 54 pages of French, 20 names of stars; five hours of forging. June 8th—read 51 lines of Hebrew, 50 lines of Celtic, 40 pages of French, 15 names of stars; eight hours forging. June 10th (Sunday)—100 lines of Hebrew, 85 pages of French, four services at church, Bible-class at noon" [loud cheers]. Many days he was unwell, and sometimes worked twelve hours at the forge, so that it seems that he did not come within the new bill [laughter]. Now, lest you should be tempted to think that the concerns of his handicraft interfered with, or were prejudicial to his course of study, I shall subjoin a remark which was made with respect to him, by Dr Combe, the eminent phrenologist, who traveled in America, and who gave the greatest attention to the developments of the human head, and to the conditions of human health. Dr Combe says—"One thing is obvious, that the necessity for forging saved this student's life. If he had not been forced by necessity to labour, he would, in all probability, have devoted himself so incessantly to his books, that he would have ruined his health, and been carried to a premature grave." So, you perceive, that work may not only be no drawback, but even an assistance to the most intense literary labour [hear, hear].

The meeting was afterwards addressed by Mr Cameron, a clergyman, Mr Scales, of Leeds, Mr Hodgson, and other gentlemen. Mr Hodgson, in referring to the institution with which he was connected, said, in Liverpool several gentlemen had aided them by subscriptions of as much as £1000 each; and he referred to the latest and greatest instance of munificence, in the erection of a building by Mr Geo. Holt, at an expense of £7000, for the accommodation of a girls' school, which was now for the first time to be connected with the institution [loud applause].

**EARLY CLOSING OF SHOPS.**—On Monday last, the new system of closing at seven o'clock was expected to commence in earnest, and at that hour probably a sixth part of the shops were closed, the stationers and booksellers setting a noble example. How many refreshing walks might be enjoyed at this fine season, if tradesmen would only be satisfied with doing a day's work every day.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

**OPENING OF NEW RAILWAYS.**—On Wednesday morning, at a quarter before eight o'clock, the branch railway from the Bricklayers' Arms station to Folkestone and Dover was opened in due ceremony to the public. This new branch will be very convenient to passengers coming from France, and going to the west end of the town. The opening of the entire line of the Bristol and Exeter railway was also celebrated on the same day. In Exeter all business was suspended, and thousands and tens of thousands flocked in from the country, and the streets, paraded by bands of music, were densely thronged with people in holiday attire.

**THE COLLIER'S STRIKE.**—The great majority of our pitmen, we are sorry to state, still refuse to accept the offers of the coal-owners. We hear, however, that the probability is, that not many days will elapse ere the operations of several collieries will be resumed. We wish this may prove to be the case.—*Gateshead Observer.*

**COSTS IN CASES AT PETTY SESSIONS.**—A labouring man, named Robert Lunnon, was summoned a few days since before the bench of magistrates sitting in petty sessions at Marlow, to answer the charge of damaging the signboard and a window at the Black Lion public-house, at Little Marlow. The defendant was convicted in both cases as follows:—For damaging the signboard he was fined 2s., and ordered to pay 13s. costs; and for damaging the window he was fined 1s., and mulct in 15s. costs!

**DREADFUL ACCIDENT.**—**ONE HUNDRED LIVES LOST, NEAR LLANELLY.**—We stop the press to announce that a most dreadful accident occurred yesterday in a colliery near Llanelli. It appears from the particulars we have been able to gather, that between two and three o'clock yesterday afternoon the engine in the Penbwlgwyn colliery, the property of the Llangennech Coal Company, about two miles from

Llanelli, on the Loughor road, caught fire. Some pitch, with which part of the engine was covered, contributed to increase the danger by causing the fire to burn with greater violence. After a very short time, the engine with a tremendous crash fell into the pit, shutting out every chance of escape for the hundred men and children who were working in the pit. The people living in the neighbourhood, with praiseworthy promptitude, rendered every assistance in their power; but all attempts to put out the flames were vain. Exertions to extricate the poor sufferers were used incessantly, but at eight o'clock last night not one of them was got out of the pit. It is much to be feared, therefore, that every soul has perished. —**Welshman.** [We rejoice to learn that this report is totally incorrect; the poor miners having been one and all rescued from their dangerous situation by their friends above in a temporary apparatus provided for the purpose. Several were in a state of stupefaction. They attributed their escape entirely to the preservation of the wooden partition dividing the pit, through the western portion of which a current of air had, during the whole time, entered. On more than one occasion, the portion of the partition nearest the bottom of the pit became ignited from the large masses of fire which continually descended from the burning shed and machinery, to extinguish which required the constant efforts of the whole twenty-four. They were fortunately provided with an ample supply of water, which they conveyed in buckets, hats, caps, &c.]

**ATTEMPT TO DESTROY A WHOLE FAMILY.**—On Friday night last one of the most fiendish attempts was made to destroy the family of Mr Burton, at Churchill, near Daventry, in Northamptonshire, which has ever been heard of in this country. Mr Burton's family consists of himself and Mrs Burton and thirteen children (the three eldest boys being at school, the other ten were at home), with five women-servants and five men-servants; the latter sleepout of the house, two of them over the saddle-room, two others in adjoining cottages, and the other, a stable-boy, with his parents in the village. On the night in question Mr Burton was in London.

About twelve o'clock Mrs Burton, who had retired to her dressing room, and was in the act of preparing for bed, fancied she heard one of the children crying, and on going from her room towards the nursery, which is on the same floor, she saw a light under the door of one of the unoccupied rooms, in the centre of the building. She had a quarter of an hour before she was into this room, and locked the door, leaving the key on the outside. After a moment's hesitation, and in great alarm, thinking there was some person in the room, she opened the door, which was then unlocked, and discovered the window curtains in flames in three distinct places. On going into the room before, Mrs Burton had not gone near the window. She instantly gave an alarm, and the servants were very soon on the spot, but in doing so she left the room door open in which the fire was, which gave an opportunity to the miscreant of escaping, taking with him a candle which Mrs Burton had left burning in her bedroom, as well as a rush-light which she had left burning in the adjoining dressing-room. It then appears that he opened a window in the latter, and effected his escape.

The fire was got under, after destroying the greater part of the furniture and some valuable pictures, without extending to any other room. Of the diabolical fact there is no manner of doubt, but at present the matter is involved in great mystery.

**TWO YOUNG LADIES DROWNED.**—On Thursday evening last a lamentable accident occurred near Chelmsford, by which Miss Mary M'Hardy, daughter of the chief constable of the county police, and Miss Gace, the governess in the captain's family, lost their lives—an occurrence which has excited a deep feeling of sorrow and sympathy in the neighbourhood. It appears that about seven o'clock Miss Gace, a young lady of considerable personal beauty and high accomplishments, and who was greatly beloved for her kind disposition and vivacity of temper, was walking in the fields leading from Chelmsford to Springfield, with the two Misses M'Hardy, the deceased aged eleven years, and Malvina, aged nine; they seem to have quitted the path, and the young ladies were playing near the edge of the Chelmer, at a part where the force of the current had considerably undermined the bank. It is believed that the eldest Miss M'Hardy ventured too near the edge, when the overhanging part gave way, and she was precipitated into the water, which at that part is from ten to fifteen feet deep. Miss Gace, in her anxiety to save her charge, immediately jumped in, and both perished. The younger Miss M'Hardy, with great presence of mind, sent some girls who were near for assistance to her home, which is only a short distance from the spot, and also gave the alarm to other parties. As the bodies could not be seen, creepers were procured, but at least twenty-five minutes elapsed before the bodies were got out, when life was evidently extinct, although the most persevering exertions were used for a long time by several medical gentlemen.

**INCENDIARISM IN SUFFOLK.**—The spirit of incendiарism seems increasing rather than diminishing in some of the agricultural districts. The *Bury Post* of the past week contains accounts of seven district fires in Essex, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire.

**LOSS OF THE SEVERN SCREW STEAMER.**—This new steamer, which is propelled by the Archimedean screw and by high-pressure engines, plies between Bristol and Newport. On Saturday, when off the latter port, it was found that the screw would not act, in consequence, as it afterwards appeared, of its being obstructed by a long piece of chain. The vessel was, therefore, drifted rapidly with the tide, and in a few minutes struck against the sharp angle of the bridge, which made a "dent" in the bow; the water began to flow in, and the pumps were set to work, but she rebounded, and again struck broad-

side against the bridge with such force that it was almost miraculous she did not turn right over. The scene was now heart-rending. There were about fifty passengers on board, and the screaming and cries of alarm and for help were dreadful. There was a large number of people assembled on the bridge and shores, and assistance was promptly afforded; and all the passengers and luggage were saved, it being an hour-and-a-half from the time of the vessel striking to her going down. Several attempts have been made to get her up, but as yet without avail.

**A HOUSE OF MOURNING.**—The typhus fever has been raging in the parish of Easthope, near Much Wenlock, since last midsummer nearly to the present time. In one house seven persons were dangerously ill, three of them died, and the only child which escaped that dreadful malady was burnt to death. Few parishes in the country can exhibit such a house of mourning as this.

**EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCE.**—On Friday last a very unusual occurrence took place in the river Towy, which caused some consternation in the minds of the superstitious who happened to be the eye-witnesses of it. As some workmen were standing on the banks of the river, near the tin-mills, contiguous to this town, they suddenly observed the surface of the water completely covered with myriads of live insects, which, on closer inspection, they found to be large black flies. They were in a dense mass, covering the entire breadth of the river; and it was calculated that they must have been about a mile in length, as they were full twenty minutes passing the works before the river got clear of them.—*Carmarthen Journal.*

**BATHS AND BATHING.**—Few Roman citizens in easy circumstances were without the luxury of a private bath. Amongst many articles of luxury for which Pliny censures the ladies of his time, he takes notice of their bathing-rooms being paved with silver. Even the metal flues were gilt. The Russian baths, as used by the common people, bear a close resemblance to the laconicum of the Romans. They usually consist of wooden houses, situated, if possible, by the side of a running stream. In the bath room is a large vaulted oven, which, when heated, makes the paving stones red hot; and adjoining to the oven is a kettle fixed in masonry, for the purpose of holding boiling water. Round about the walls are three or four rows of benches, one above another, like the seats of a scaffold. The room has little light, but here and there are apertures for letting the vapour escape; the cold water that is wanted is let in by small channels. In France there are baths in all the towns, and bathing is practised more than in Germany or England, where baths are rare. There are but few baths in London, and those established there would not suffice for a small fraction of the population if bathing were a common practice. Regular swimming baths are established at Vienna, Munich, Breslau, Berlin, and Paris. But the English are not much inclined to swimming, even when the means are at hand. Probably not one in ten of all our sailors, both in the navy and merchants' service, can swim. When a ship is wrecked within a hundred fathoms of the shore, and no boats or other assistance arrive, it is melancholy to observe how few even attempt to swim on shore, and those very few who do so are usually passengers. Familiarity with the elements makes our sailors indifferent to it, and careless of consequences. Among the inhabitants of the metropolis, those who can swim have acquired the art at watering places, or at the Serpentine river, in the summer season, instigated solely by the novelty and amusement. Very few in comparison attend the public baths, chiefly perhaps because they are not gratuitous.—*Economist.*

**MUSIC PLEASING FROM ASSOCIATION.**—The exquisite sensations which sweet sounds excite are generally said to be by reason of association. A strain which delighted us in early life, whenever it again meets the ear, will, in some measure, restore to the heart the sunshine and fresh breathing verdure of youth. A song which we first heard from the lips we loved, will ever after thrill through the heart with joy or sadness, according as the passion has been fortunate or unsuccessful. The chain of association is struck, the electric touch is felt through the whole frame, and thoughts that had slumbered in the breast start at the magic sound into sudden and vivid existence.—*British Minstrel.*

**FISCHER THE OBOE PLAYER.**—This celebrated performer, who flourished about the year 1775, was a man of great professional pride. Being very much pressed by a nobleman to sup with him after the opera, he declined the invitation, saying, that he was usually very much fatigued, and made it a rule never to go out after the evening's performance. The noble lord would, however, take no denial, and assured Fischer that he did not ask him professionally, but merely for the gratification of his society and conversation. Thus urged and encouraged he went; he had not, however, been many minutes in the house of this consistent nobleman, before his lordship approached him, and said, "I hope, Mr Fischer, you have brought your oboe in your pocket." "No, my lord," said Fischer, "my oboe never sups." He turned on his heel, and instantly left the house, and no persuasion could ever induce him to return to it.—*Reminiscences of Michael Kelly.*

**NOVEL NUTCRACKERS.**—One of the Bristol churches, now no more, having been built upon a bad foundation, had declined so much from the perpendicular that it oscillated very dangerously; and while the bells were being rung, it was not unusual for boys to insert nuts in the opening crevices of the walls, to be cracked!

### Religious Intelligence.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

THE anniversary of this institution was held at Exeter hall, on Thursday evening, the 2nd instant. Every part of the large hall was crowded to suffocation. The chair was taken by C. Hindley, Esq., M.P.

The meeting having been commenced by singing and prayer,

The CHAIRMAN said, that last year they were in doubt respecting a certain bill to which they were opposed, and which they considered to be very injurious to the cause of liberal Sunday school instruction. That bill has gone, and gone for ever [loud cheers]. And now, the sacred cause of education, according to a cabinet minister, was to be left to the generous rivalry of the different sects in the country [cheers]. And he trusted they would show that that generous rivalry would indeed be much more potent in promoting the sacred cause of education than any government measure. After a few other observations, he concluded by calling upon the secretary, W. H. WATSON, Esq., to read an abstract of the Report.

It commenced with a brief sketch of the origin, principles, and constitution of the Sunday School Union, and then went on to detail the operations of the society in Denmark, France, the East Indies, Van Diemen's Land, New Zealand, the West India islands, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Bermuda, Nova Scotia, Canada, and the Sandwich islands, in all of which great benefit had been conferred through its instrumentality. With reference to home proceedings, it stated, that fourteen grants had been made during the past year in aid of the expense of erecting or enlarging Sunday schools, amounting to £430. The total number of grants, up to the present time, was 242; amounting to £5,503. A grant of £40 had been made, to promote the extension and improvement of Sunday schools. Depository book grants had been made to the amount of £199 12s. 7d. Donations had been received, amounting to £200 18s. Local unions had been formed at Evesham, Newark, and Barnsley. The Trowbridge union had been dissolved. Deputations from the committee had attended the annual meetings of several unions. The libraries granted during the past year had been 115; making a total of 1,084. The pecuniary loss from the grants of last year amounted to £276. The schools which had been thus assisted contained 16,580 scholars, of whom 9,245 were able to read the scriptures. The following were the number of schools, teachers, and scholars, within a circle of five miles from the General Post-office:—

	Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.
South .....	96	2,118	19,966
East .....	145	2,858	28,087
West .....	122	2,249	21,847
North .....	118	2,144	32,897
	481	9,369	93,797

Lectures had been delivered in the library and reading-rooms upon several highly interesting topics. It then adverted to the Factory Districts Education bill: the proceedings taken by the committee with reference to that measure, and the success which had attended the opposition made to it. The sale of publications at the depository had amounted to £8,703 14s. 9d., being a decrease of £123 5s. 5d. on the sales of the previous year. The teacher's hymn-book had been revised and improved. Its publication completed a series of books which the committee had, for some years past, been engaged in preparing. It then referred to the circumstances which led to the publication of the *Sunday-school Union Magazine*, and the encouraging demand which it had met. The *Teacher's Magazine* had scarcely been at all affected by it; great success had attended the use of moveable letters, for rendering the attainment of the art of reading more easy. The circulation of the monthly notes on scriptural lessons had greatly increased. The catechism question was then noticed. In order to guide the committee in their decision on this question, it was thought necessary that they should have the means of knowing how far the change was desired by the great body of Sunday-school teachers. Out of the fifty country unions, which existed, only two had requested that the sale of denominational catechisms should be discontinued. The committee of the four auxiliaries comprised, in the whole, 800, of whom 137 had voted in favour of resolutions requesting the committee to discontinue the sale of catechisms, leaving 663 who either approved of the practice on that subject, or did not feel sufficiently interested in the matter to induce them to record their votes in favour of a change. The committee trusted that whatever might be the ultimate decision, the catholic character of the Union would be carefully preserved.

The total receipts of the benevolent fund during the past year had been £1,747 4s. 8d.; the expenditure, £1,677 17s. 2d.; leaving a balance in hand of £69 7s. 5d. The total receipts of the trade account, including debts from schools and individuals, and the trade stock, were £13,572 1s. 2d.

Mr SHERMAN, minister of Surrey chapel, who was received with loud applause, in seconding the first resolution, said—I do so with pleasure, especially because of its kind conciliatory spirit, its liberality, and its love; and the confidence with which the committee cast themselves on the assembled teachers, in a doubtful matter, gives that report, or ought to do so, a warm reception among all its friends. Sir, I hope, as long as I live, to live with the men of peace, to love the men of peace, and to give whatever little influence I possess to the men of peace and love. It is said in my resolution that various assistances and encouragements have been given to Sunday-school teachers by the Union. One of those has been a grant of money to different schools for their erection. And, although many places in London might do without these little grants, of what advantage, think you, must they be in foreign lands, to establish schools in different parts where education has by no means progressed, and where the truth of God is scarcely known? In another way they have assisted Sunday-school teachers—by gifts of books; and I entirely coincide with the gentleman who has forwarded the report from New Brunswick, who says that the greatest impediment to the improvement of the rising generation is the deficiency of the supply of suitable books. In England we can scarcely understand this; but, in situations where books are not in abundance, and where, as in one case, the children had twenty miles to go to school, and where there are very few teachers to instruct them, of how great importance and value must be one of the libraries sent from this Union

to such an institution? I also hail, with considerable delight, the publication of the scripture lessons. And last, but not least, that which was stated in the report will, I think, tend to advantage to the great body of teachers to a very considerable extent, I mean the visitation of the committee; which may be likely to stir up the teachers to greater exertion; to present to them modes of usefulness which may not have occurred to their minds; and, by exciting them to more diligence, help forward the cause of Sunday schools in a more effectual manner. But, my dear friends, can you bear a word or two to yourselves to-night [hear, hear]? Are you so filled with catechisms that you cannot bear one word? I hope not [hear, hear]. I should be distressed beyond measure if I thought these hallowed meetings were to be turned into scenes of contention and discord [cheers]. Truth, I am aware, ought ever to be dearer to us than anything else [cheers]. At the same time, while each man is allowed to judge for himself in the interpretation of the scriptures, we must all be satisfied, while we have different religious denominations, to meet here with different views upon minor subjects, but to meet here holding the one great principle of love to Christ and love to souls [cheers]. As long as we hold by this, we shall ever have harmony in these meetings, and it will be an evil day indeed, if ever that harmony be broken [renewed cheers]. Will you allow me, then, my dear fellow-labourers, just to say, that an augmentation of personal piety in your own minds, is the first and great qualification for Sunday-school teachers [hear— that in proportion as that is strong, will you be ready and able to execute your work? Communion with God, delight in his blessed book, views of truth fetched from the throne of grace, and lighted up in the mind, with affection to Christ, by the agency of the Holy Spirit, will qualify you as Sunday school teachers for an ardent, intense, perseverance, and felicity in your work, which nothing but that can give. Bear with me if I press this upon you, not because the speaker does not feel his need of it, but because, if we both expect ever to succeed in the different departments of our ministrations, it must be by the cultivation of ardent piety and love to the dear Redeemer. May I also add, that I trust no teacher present will ever despair of any child in his class? Some discouragements often arise from seeing children of very obdurate spirits, and, I was going to say, very dirty habits. There are some who seem to be past all hope, that occasionally yield such bright evidences of God's goodness, that I trust no individual will ever despair of seeing a soul converted to God. I wish I could convey many individuals present to some of what are called "ragged schools," which are thrown open on a Sunday evening for the wretched, the filthy, and the lost; when I tell this audience that a great proportion of the boys in these schools, never see the inside of a house but for the purposes of robbery, scarcely ever sleep in a house, but under carts, sheds, under the arches of bridges, and in doorways—when I tell them that their heads are forests of living animals, that the clothes on their backs you might very easily shake off, and that large numbers of the most devoted of our congregations are constantly teaching these individuals, a sacrifice from the house of God which none can appreciate but those who make it—when I tell them that 600 of these individuals are instructed in two schools every Sabbath night in the winter—that from these degraded wretches we have had two join the church [hear, hear]—one of whom has walked consistently for two years and a half, raised from the degradation of misery to be now a happy and a useful servant, and has kept her place above two years—when I tell you this, I am sure no teacher present will despair of cultivating a dark or a dismal mind. There was one boy, a most hopeless and wretched individual, in one of these schools, who a very little time ago was seen in the street, near a city missionary's house, looking at a Punch and Judy show, when two men came up and began to fight one another; the missionary came out to separate them, and one of these men showed fight to the missionary [laughter]. This boy, Tom Brown, happening to be present, went up to the man, put his fist in his face, and said, "Do you know who that is? that is my teacher, and if you touch him, I'll knock you down [laughter and cheers]. Here, sir," said Tom, "these people never hear a sermon: do get upon this hillock here, and I will make a ring for you, and you preach to them." And the missionary did so, and the figures stood still while he preached a sermon to the crowd; and as his house was just by, he brought out a bundle of tracts and distributed among these people. I have a great hope that a John Bunyan may yet come out of such a poor wretched creature as this [cheers]. Another boy was looking in at a window in Blackfriars road, the other day, when a lady and gentleman were passing: he said, "These are very beautiful shoes, Ma'am." The husband, not liking his wife to stay and talk to such a ragamuffin, haled her on. They went to another shop, and, when looking in there, the lady thought the lad had a very interesting countenance, and asked him his name. "Tom so and so," said he. "Where do you live?" "Indeed I'd be very clever to tell you." "What do you work at?" "Anything, when I can get it." "What do you feed on?" "Oh," said he, "just as we sing at the school,

"O, all ye hungry starving souls  
That feed upon the wind!"

[great laughter]. I will venture to say Dr Watts never contemplated such an application of the words. But these are individuals whose very wickedness makes them ingenuous. I will only add that, with the closing sentences of the report I most heartily concur, and I pray that nothing associated with this institution may ever break the harmony, good feeling, and love, which have ever characterised its teachers and its friends [cheers].

Mr HENRY RICHARDS, in seconding the resolution, said, allusion was made in the report to the Factories bill of last year, and to the part which the Sunday School Union, and Sunday school teachers generally, throughout the country, took in the defeat of that measure. I should like to say a few words in reference to the agitation by which that most desirable consummation was achieved; and I advert to that, because I believe here are some things in reference to it which ought to be spoken before it finally takes its place among the things that were, in order to vindicate the character of those who took part in the agitation, from unmerited and unjust obloquy, and in order to place that remarkable movement itself in the position and light which I believe it is entitled to occupy. And I know not wher

these truths could be more fitly uttered than in this audience; for if there is a class of men in England to whom the defeat of the measure can be more justly ascribed than another, it is the great body of Sunday school teachers. I have heard and seen, within the last few months, that agitation referred to, both in that house of collective wisdom to which you, sir, belong, and in the organs of our public intelligence, in language and in a tone obviously implying that the speakers and writers regarded it as a most melancholy explosion of violence and fanaticism that could never be sufficiently deprecated and deplored, and as having prevented the fairest opportunity ever offered for educating and enlightening the people of England. I acquiesce not in this representation of the matter. I see nothing upon which we cannot look back with feelings of humble gratitude and devout exultation. I consider that agitation had in it a far deeper significance, and answered far nobler purposes, than anything implied in the mere defeat of that bill. I consider it furnished a satisfactory illustration of the healthful state of the religious community of this country; for I do say that that agitation was pre-eminently a religious agitation—it was the religious mind of England arising in firm and resolute indignation at an attempt made to invade their rights and privileges, and expressing itself in tones so distinct and emphatic, that those most wedded to that measure were compelled to withdraw it from the imperial legislature. In reference to communities, no less than to individuals, that which constitutes the foundation of genuine strength and stability of character is deep religious earnestness; and I am sure that, in looking on the past history of our country, it was this element that entered most largely into the composition of the national character in all those scenes to which we can now revert with the greatest amount of satisfaction and complacency. What, I ask, was it that carried this country safely and triumphantly through that perilous crisis of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, which was, indeed, inevitable in the development of its political destinies, but which shook and convulsed all the elements of society, when a neighbouring nation, in passing through a similar crisis, was precipitated into a whirlpool of violence, crime, and blood? What was it but the stern religious earnestness of the puritan character that was engaged in the conflict?—men who, though then and now exposed to ridicule on account of certain quaintness of manner and air, came forth from the council chamber and the battle field in devout communion with their God—men who fought the glorious battle of religious freedom, the effects of which are now enjoyed by those who despise and ridicule their memory—men who, with stern energy and uncompromising spirit, fought for the cause of truth, liberty of conscience, and of God [cheers]. And I do consider that the agitation to which I have referred had at the bottom of it the same deep religious feeling; and I feel assured of this, that any statesman who can look aright upon the character of the people he is called upon to rule, although he might lament that project's defeat, could not but regard with complacency the manifestation of feeling and of principle which led to that result, and say, There is stuff and stamina in such a population as this, out of which to erect a great, a vigorous, and a prosperous nation [cheers]. The resolution refers to the necessity of additional and increased diligence on the part of Sunday school teachers in the prosecution of the labours to which they are called. My belief is, notwithstanding the impatience manifested in reference to the question of catechisms, that it is a matter of unspeakably greater importance that Sunday school teachers should attempt to elevate their own character, and improve their own intellect, and cultivate their own understanding, than expend so much enthusiasm in reference to a matter of such minor importance [hear, hear]. I have no particular love for that catechism [hear]. I have said as strong things in condemning it as most men; but, sir, I do consider that, if Sunday school teachers inform themselves aright of the great principles of religious truth, and, in their several circles, address themselves with diligence and vigour to infuse into their own minds and that of their children the elements of pure and undefiled religion, they will do more to counteract the influence of that pernicious catechism than by any other course [cheers]. Sir, I look with fear and apprehension at the spread of those principles which now assume the aspect of a kind of semi popery in this country, and which I believe to be contained in that catechism [loud cheers]. I believe the principles inculcated there form part of a system which, if it were to gain the ascendancy in this country, would entirely quench the light of the gospel—a system which, under the name of catholic, cherishes the most pitiable and driveling bigotry—a system which takes away the glory of the Saviour, which elevates the church above the Bible, and which substitutes the carnal commandments of human authority for the spiritual religion of Christ [loud cheers]. And I do feel that it is to the energetic exertions of Sunday school teachers we must, to a great extent, look for the application of the antidote by which the spread of this fearful heresy could be arrested. But in what way could they exert that influence? Is it by exaggerated expressions of condemnation in reference to that small formulary itself? I do not believe it [hear]. My belief is, they will answer their own end far better by imbuing their own minds deeply with the conviction of the supreme value of spiritual religion, and determining that the minds of their children should be pre-occupied by sound religious instruction, and then all attempts to impose upon them the dogmas taught in that miserable catechism will be utterly unavailing [loud and continued cheers]. If that catechism can be expelled from the Union without a dishonourable breach of contract, actual or implied—if it can be expelled without sacrificing the principles of commercial probity in defence of orthodox doctrine—if it can be expelled without committing the Union to the principle that in all its publications there must be perfect unity of theological sentiment—if it can be done without involving all these consequences—then, I say, away with the catechism, at once [cheers]. But, if there was a contract implied in the formation of this Union, among all classes of religionists, churchmen and dissenters, to co-operation—if, when the sale of that catechism was first introduced, the compact was not further ratified—if you desire not to bring into question your adherence to great, simple, moral principle, if the money of churchmen was applied to the establishment and maintenance of the Union, and if you cannot commit yourselves to this question, without at the same time hazarding the retention of other publications of the Society, and opening the door hereafter for all manner of theological discussions; then, I say, rather than con-

vert the Sunday School Union into a Sunday school contention, let us leave it where it is [loud cheers]. Permit me, in conclusion, to refer to a circumstance which I recently heard at a meeting of one of the auxiliaries of the Union, and which is full of encouragement to you to proceed in your course of instruction and of acquaintance with that great Book which contains all the elements of our salvation. There was a clergyman in a particular district, who expressed his doubt of the efficacy of Sunday schools: he was invited to be present at the examination of a particular school; and after he had put certain questions to the children, which elicited, on the whole, very satisfactory replies, one little fellow stepped out of the ranks and said, "Now, Sir, if you please, I should like to ask you two or three questions" [laughter]. "Well, my little man," said the clergyman, "I have no particular objection: what are they?" "Can you tell me what was the name of the sixth king of Israel?" "Well, the sixth king of Israel—that requires some time for consideration."—"Well, if you can't answer that question, I will ask you another. How many children did Benjamin take down with him to Egypt" [laughter]? "How many children? Why, I must take time for consideration."—"Well, sir, if you can't answer that, I'll ask you another. What day of the month did Noah come out of the ark" [great laughter]? And the clergyman could answer none of the questions the little boy had put to him, and you may suppose he departed from the school not a little cast down, and his mind not a little influenced in reference to the contemptuous opinion which he had heretofore cherished in reference to Sunday school teaching [cheers].

Mr J. CARLILE then rose, and was greeted with enthusiastic applause, mingled with cries of "Order" and "Chair." He said he rose to express, in a single sentence or two, what he felt to be necessary, to guard himself against a subsequent inconsistency. His intention was, immediately after the meeting had disposed of the motion, to move a vote of instruction to the committee, to be then chosen.

Considerable confusion here prevailed; and after some discussion, as to the proper time of choosing the committee, it was ultimately decided to postpone that question till a later hour of the meeting; and Mr FRAZER then rose and briefly moved the second resolution.

Dr MORISON, in rising to second the resolution, said, I hope the Sunday-school teachers will not put me down if I venture to make a few observations, even if by possibility I should say a word or two that might not please every one in the room. It is not my intention to offend any one who may differ from me, because I think we must give and take upon all questions on which the human mind is set to work. There is a state of the Christian mind, in which people give up the trouble of thinking for themselves, and deliver it over into the hands of other persons. I consider this to be a most decrepit condition, one greatly to be deprecated, and one which I think cannot be chargeable to any great extent on the present age; for, with all the follies of the age in which we live, it is one of restless inquiry; and, doubtless, in such an age, a number of subjects will come up, which one had rather at times did not present themselves. But when they happen to be advantageous, and when they happen to be even injurious, their coming up turns out eventually to be a benefit rather than an injury, because evil things get sifted just as much as the good things; and the feeling of my mind is, that the truth is great and will prevail—and only those parties who are interested in putting the truth under a bushel have anything to fear [cheers]. Having made these general remarks, which are rather on the philosophy of the question than the individual merits of the one before us, allow me to say that I do not attribute to any party connected with the controversy to-night, anything like an evil intention, a wrong purpose of heart, a disposition to stultify the truth of God, for I do believe that there is not an advocate for the church catechism in this assembly [loud applause] in its plain English sense. I know that there are many good and excellent churchmen here, and I love them to my heart's core [cheers]—because my Master loves them, and I am bound to love them on that account. But my church brother is not bound to love any error that I hold, nor am I bound to love any error that he holds [hear, hear]—and I maintain that union among Christians on conscientious principles is not union in what is wrong, but union in that on which they agree [loud cheers]. My feeling regarding the question in hand is this: I am decidedly for getting rid of the church catechism [cheers]. I am about to express my own views, and you must not hiss—I am not to be easily hissed down. I will state the case fairly—give me time, and do not put a man in a fever [loud laughter]. I am for getting rid of the church catechism from this society for this reason: I would not have the society sell a book that we dare not talk about, or, if we do talk about it, it must be with divided feelings. But I would not get rid of it to do injustice to churchmen who have stood nobly by the society, who have, to my certain knowledge, done it good service, and whom I as much respect in their kind and Christian labours as I do any man in this society [cheers]. I am convinced there is no need of rashness or roughness in this movement. I would, therefore, get rid of all catechisms—not because I should be conscientiously disturbed about any other catechism; I should not feel much troubled about my baptist friends' catechism—though I do not believe a word of one part of it. It would not raise in my mind any conscientious question pressing upon me, because they put in their catechism, with good things, their views of the ordinance of baptism. But why? Because no fundamental doctrine of the gospel—no fundamental doctrine of Christianity is thereby destroyed. As it respects the assembly's shorter catechism, I consider it the marvel of age in which it was framed; it was not a denominational catechism, though it was composed by presbyterians with a slight sprinkling of others. Yet it is a book remarkably free from denominational hue. My Wesleyan brother may think that it screws up the doctrine of election a little higher than he likes—but I should not be troubled if the Wesleyan catechism happened to screw it down. With respect to Dr. Watts's dear little catechism, for dear it shall be whether the Union sells it or not—I do not know how any good man that professes Christianity can object to it. But if it will preserve the union of our dear church brethren to shut all catechisms out, and that banner of which we have been bearing shall still be seen floating with the memorial of "Union" inscribed in shining colours, then for one I will make all the sacrifice of money, for it is nothing more [cheers]. Some people talk as if all

these catechisms were to be annihilated; as if, provided the Union should not sell them, they would never more be seen. I have heard it said, that the removal of the catechism will be attended with much inconvenience to our country friends. It will be inconvenient to our country friends to get their orders executed for these catechisms, which they use in their schools. Well, better than keep us in a state of ferment at head quarters [hear]. But the question will not be confined to London; it will go through the length and the breadth of the country, if we do not get it settled here. Our country friends must be put to inconvenience, as well as made to dip a little deeper in their pockets, in order that we may thus get the question settled, and be enabled to look kindly on each other. I have no right to say these things, and it is very forbearing in my friends who differ from me to sit and hear me. I thank you cordially for your kindness, and whatever be the result of this question, I hope it will be in the hearts of all to abide by this cause. If we abide by it in a truly Christian spirit, it will give deliverance to every conscientious man. Be not troubled about it. I do not care about the troubles of men who are not conscientiously troubled. I was a short time ago in a sanctuary; I do not say where, but the church catechism was used by a clergyman in a class of children in the afternoon, and I did hear such doctrines brought out of the letter of that catechism to those poor ignorant children, that it gave me, having thought a little on the subject before, a most distressing impression of what the catechism could be turned to in bad hands. Now, our friends are not bad hands; they would not be with us if they were; there is not a single particle of Puseyism in any of them. There is a friend near me as much opposed to Puseyism as I am, and yet he is a warm-hearted churchman. I believe he would not teach the catechism in its letter, but he would hold his taper before it, and give it the interpretation which Newton, and Scott, and others have done. But give me a book, the English of which I can abide by; especially give me a book of this kind if children are to be taught from it. If dubious phraseology is to be shunned in any class of books, it is here. If phraseology calculated to mislead, and upon which wise and learned men put the most adverse constructions, is to be employed, it should not be in books given to children. The resolution before me is one with which I perfectly agree. It speaks to two points. I do not know what my friend who spoke last meant. He said, when speaking of this resolution, that he had established schools distinctly formed for the conversion of the young. I do not understand that. Every Sunday school should be formed for that express purpose; every other purpose should be made tributary to it. The other feature in this resolution, which exceedingly delights me, is, that it does not speak of what we may get in catechisms. We may get some good things, but after all they are only human; and the best catechism is the Bible. It is the best of books, because it is God's book; but I find children get more intelligence from Bible exercises than from any other. I do intreat Sunday-school teachers to consider the scriptures as their stronghold; and, if they wish them to take a strong hold on the minds of the children, they must study them themselves. Do not be angry with me for thinking that you have not studied the scriptures as much as you ought; but there are depths in that book to which you have not directed your attention. Make yourselves familiar with that portion of the Bible that you want to bring before your classes, and be assured that you will not speak to a class uninterested in what you teach. There is a friend to my left (Mr Carlile) who has something to say about the catechism, and which, I think, would very much meet the difficulty, and tend to harmonise all parties. I wish to promote love and union upon safe and sound ground; and I do not believe that we can do it by keeping the church catechism, in an age when it is made an instrument of so much evil. Let all the catechisms, as a peace-offering to our friends in the church, be shut out; and then we shall join heart and hand, and go forth with love, and courage, and zeal, for the work to which God has called us [loud cheers].

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

Mr W. GROSER moved the third resolution, and WILLIAM JONES, Esq., seconded it.

Mr HOOPER rose at the back of the platform, and said: I beg to move an amendment. Twenty-seven names have been read as constituting the committee. Those twenty-seven gentlemen are self-elected. We want a revolution in our great societies on this point; or, if you do not like that word, some reformation, some alteration. We want popular committees—chosen out of those who support our various societies; and, therefore, I think that a large number of this committee ought to be taken out of the auxiliaries, for they are the only popular part of the committee. I will, therefore, move that the last six names be struck out, and that seven members, instead of four, be appointed from each auxiliary.

The amendment not having been seconded, the original motion was put, and carried unanimously.

Mr J. CARLILE then stood forward and said:—I rise to submit—and I trust sincerely that the remarks I shall make will have no tendency, for I am quite certain that is not the desire of my heart, to wound the feelings of any Christian man, or of any Christian church upon earth—I rise to submit to the meeting the following resolution:—

"The committee for the last year having left undiscussed the question relative to the continued sale of denominational catechisms, this meeting of the constituent body hereby recommend the committee just chosen to discontinue, at the earliest practical period, the publication and sale, at the Society's depository, of all such denominational formularies."

[cheers]. It is not my intention to occupy many moments, but I feel it due to myself, as well as due to the cause of which I have become the voluntary advocate, to state in distinct terms, and I feel bound to state it because of the remarks made by one of the excellent secretaries, that I stand at this moment on this platform, in no sort of concert with any man, or any party, in regard to this great question. I do not know that, in the congregated thousands whom I have the happiness to see before and around me, there is a single man prepared to second the resolution which I have just had the high honour to submit. I feel that I ought not to employ language, either in my address, or in the resolution, that is not in harmony with that fine spirit of Christian conduct and catholicity which has marked all the proceedings of this great meeting. If I know myself, I can say that it is one of the dearest and fondest, one of the very best aspirations of my heart, the subject of my daily supplication to a throne of grace, that the spirit of intolerance, the spirit of bigotry, the spirit of unchari-

tableness, may never darken, with its malignant shade, nor invest with its polluted atmosphere, a single one of the churches of the Reformation; that not upon this platform only, but in all the intercourse of their members, an unbending attachment, and, what is better still, a practical conformity to the law of Christian love, may adorn and recommend their glorious principles. I feel that it is entirely in harmony with that spirit of Christian love, combined with a regard to the fundamental verities of the Christian faith, that the committee should be instructed by this, their constituent body—the only body in this great metropolis who, in my judgment, have the constitutional right to give them instructions—to combine a proper regard for the principles of Christian truth and of Christian equity, by discontinuing the sale of one formulary of one section, but to expel, at the earliest possible period, from the Society's depository, all such denominational formularies [cheers]. I therefore have the highest pleasure, unconnected with any party or person, in submitting, on my own responsibility, the motion I have just read.

Mr CHRISTOPHERSON seconded the resolution.

W. H. WATSON, Esq.—I do not rise for the purpose of offering any opposition to the adoption of the resolution. I have said once or twice that I hope none of our scholars are present [cries of "Why?"]. Because I think they would have expected rather better conduct from their teachers [disapprobation]. I think you should hear what I have to say; I rose to state that the committee had earnestly desired to ascertain what were the views of their constituents upon this question, and that up to the present time they have not been able to satisfy themselves upon that subject. If it is true, as has just been said, that so small a portion of the committees of the auxiliaries attend their meetings, I trust the mention of it in this assembly will induce greater attention on the part of those committees. They have a great deal of work to do. Looking at the fact mentioned to-night, that we have only 93,000 children in our schools, out of a population approaching to two millions of people, we shall find that a great number of children are yet remaining uninstructed. The school buildings already erected will accommodate 10,000 children more than they at present contain. I therefore say to our friends, by all means meet in great numbers, and I am sure you will find abundant work to do. So far as this unfortunate committee, that is self-elected, is concerned, I am sure that we cannot afford to meet in such small numbers. The fact is, the business of this society must come to a standstill unless we were to meet sometimes four, five, six, and even seven times in a week in Paternoster row [hear, hear]. We rejoice in doing anything calculated to promote the cause of God [cheers]. I think it was fair to look at the individuals who voted, in order that we might ascertain what were the opinions of teachers generally. With regard to Chancery, this is new to me [hear, hear]. Nothing of the sort has been agitated in committee. The moment the committee ascertain that it is the feeling of their constituents that these catechisms should be abolished, that moment the committee will proceed to take measures to do it [cheers]. Now understand, that the committee feel deeply that which I believe is a general opinion, that one catechism alone cannot be removed [hear, hear]. Dr Morison says that he will tolerate the baptist catechism; but his baptist friends will not so readily tolerate his pædo-baptist catechism [laughter]. And will not the pædo-baptist have to look at these things? The Arminian will not tolerate the Calvinism of the Assembly's catechism. We have no chance but to look at the whole, and give them all up. The idea of Chancery is only one of those vague notions that have been floating about, and to which it is a pity to pay any attention. I will only add that the great fear of the committee has been lest the principle should be carried further—lest it should be said that, having discontinued the sale of the church catechism, we must not help schools in which it is taught. If we advance to that step, it may then be said that we must not associate with those who teach it [cries of "No, no"]. Our friends say "No," but that is the consideration which has most weighed with the committee. I do not concur in that feeling; I believe that the desire expressed for the withdrawal of this catechism is a pure one, and utterly unconnected with any other measure [hear, hear]. I believe that if the whole of the catechisms were withdrawn, it would not in any measure affect the integrity of the union; but it is a matter upon which the committee, as I feel, must obey the instructions of their constituency, when they have ascertained them [cheers].

Mr S. GREEN.—If Mr Watson had objected to the passing of this resolution, I probably should have been content to rise and second his objection. As he did not do so, I will, though I stand alone, take upon myself the responsibility of opposing it. I know that the committee of the Sunday School Union has, during the last year, been performing with very great diligence, with very great fidelity, a most onerous and important work, and if, on retiring from office, they have not asked and have not received, the thanks of this meeting, there ought not to be a single word in the resolution just proposed which would be tantamount to casting the shadow of a shade of reflection upon them [applause]. I move that all the words after "that," down to "instructed," be omitted, because I conceive that they involve a censure upon the gentlemen who have most assiduously laboured in this cause [cries of "No"]. Gentlemen say "No;" I know that one of the parties who rose to support the resolution did censure the committee. I know it was intended to cast a censure upon them. I maintain that the meeting ought not, and I am sure my friend Mr Carlile did not intend, to cast a censure upon them.

Mr J. CARLILE rose to explain. He said the resolution not only was not designed to cast a reflection upon the committee, but to save them from all such reflection [cheers].

Mr S. GREEN.—There is in that resolution one word which will prevent the accomplishment of the end which the mover and seconder profess to desire. That one word is "such;" I maintain there is not "such" a formulary as the church catechism existing in this country. Our friends tell us that they honestly wish that all denominational catechisms should be left out of the catalogue.

Mr J. CARLILE.—I withdraw the word "such"—it is an improvement [laughter and cheers].

Mr S. GREEN.—Then I am content [loud cheers].

The CHAIRMAN then submitted the resolution. A large number of hands were held up in its favour, and very few against. The decision was followed by loud and long-continued cheering.

W. B. GUINNESS, Esq., moved a vote of thanks to the

chairman, which was then seconded and carried by acclamation, and the meeting separated.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the Church Missionary Society was held on Tuesday last, at Exeter Hall. The Right Hon. the Earl of Chichester presided, and was supported by the Bishop of Winchester, the Bishop of Chester, the Bishop of Ripon, Viscount Sandon, M.P., Sir R. H. Inglis, M.P., J. P. Plumtree, Esq., M.P., Rev. Professor Scholefield, Mr J. W. Cunningham, Dr Marsh, Mr Hugh Stowell, the Dean of Salisbury, Sir G. Rose, the Hon. Mr Waldegrave, &c. During the year, fifty-four branch associations had been formed, in addition to eighteen juvenile branches. The receipts towards the general fund were £97,791 2s. 3d.; the special fund and China fund amounted to £1,556 4s. 1d. The capital fund was £2,648 16s. 6d.; sum for building, &c. £1,181 17s. The total receipts, including sundry items not classed for the year, were £104,323 16s. 10d. The expenditure was £93,472 7s.

RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.—The following abstract of the report was read at the annual meeting on Friday, by Mr Jones, corresponding secretary and superintendent. It briefly noticed the operations of the society in China, Java, India, Australia, Van Diemen's Land, New Zealand, South Sea Islands, Africa, African Islands, Spanish and British America, West Indies, the United States of America, Newfoundland, Greenland, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Hungary, Germany, Norway, Denmark, Russia, and the Mediterranean. In detailing the home proceedings, the report referred to the new depository, and the gratifying fact that the needful arrangements had been made to meet the expenses of its erection without appropriating to the object any portion of the society's benevolent income. It then alluded to the efforts now being made for the benefit of the principality of Wales. The grants made to England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, for the following objects:—District visiting, city missions, and Christian instruction societies, home missionary, Sabbath day circulation, soldiers, sailors, rivermen, &c., British emigrants, prisons, hospitals, workhouses, railway workmen, fairs, races, foreigners in England, and miscellaneous, amounted to 1,904,604 publications, of the value of £2437 2s. 6d. The libraries granted on reduced terms, to destitute districts, Sunday and day schools, and union-houses, were 317, of the value of £1640. The libraries granted, at reduced prices, since 1832, were 2908; value, £9088. One hundred and eighty-eight new tracts and books were published during the year; and the publications issued from the depository, amounted to 15,637, 676, making the total circulation in about ninety-four languages, including the issues of foreign societies, assisted by the Parent Institution, to amount to nearly 400,000,000. The total benevolent income of the year was £5105 7s. 6d.: the special fund for China, £823 12s. 2d.; the contributions to the building fund, £899 1s. 11d.; cash for sales, &c., £43,427 8s. 6d. The gratuitous issues were of the value of £6227 14s. 11d., being £1122 7s. 5d. beyond the amount of the contributions, and without any charge whatever for the agency and other expenses connected with the society's gratuitous operations at home and abroad. The legacies received were £396 5s. 5d.; total receipts £51,989 6s. 8d. The report concluded by the committee recording their unabated attachment to the catholic principles of the society.

EBENEZER CHAPEL, KING STREET, CHELTENHAM.—The above place of worship was opened, on Sunday last, under the most cheering aspects. The numbers present and the amount of collections were beyond the most sanguine expectations of the friends of this infant cause. It is but a few months they have been in existence as a united body of Christians, having been recently formed at the Baptist Tabernacle, Bath road. The amount of the collections was a noble development of the voluntary principle; after three sermons on the morning and evening of Sunday, and on the evening of Monday, by the Rev. H. B. Bulteel, of Oxford, and a sermon on the Sunday afternoon, by the Rev. D. Denham, minister of the chapel, the sum of £60 was collected.—*Cheltenham Free Press.*

RE-OPENING OF NEWINGTON CHAPEL.—According to announcement, to which we called attention last week, three sermons were preached in Newington chapel, on Sunday, by the Rev. Wm Bevan (in the absence of the Rev. D. Fergusson), Dr Beaumont, and Dr Raffles, after which collections were made amounting to more than £37, in addition to a previous subscription of nearly £40. We are gratified by learning that his worship the mayor was present at the evening service.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

MUNIFICENT TESTIMONIAL TO MR H. MELVILLE.—So successful have the efforts of the committee appointed to conduct this subscription proved, that in addition to the service of plate originally contemplated, the sum of five hundred pounds has been purchased in the three per cent. consols, in Mr Melville's name. The residue of the subscription has been appropriated to the purchase of a service of plate; which has been completed, and was on Tuesday evening exhibited to the subscribers at the schoolroom of Camden chapel. It consists of a massive silver salver; a small ditto; four corner dishes and covers, with crest handles; a candelabrum, and epergne.

CHATTERIS.—Mr Thomas E. Stallybrass, B. A., student of Highbury College, having accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation, from the church and congregation assembling at the Independent chapel, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, to the pastoral office over them, purposes to enter on his stated labours on the 19th instant.

#### EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

THE LATE HAMBURG FIRE.—It appears by a letter from Hamburg that the amount of the losses occasioned by the great fire in that city has only just been correctly ascertained. It is 38,442,000 marks current (about 72 millions of francs).

How dependent a thing is human excellence! What is beauty without soap?

ADVICE.—To embitter domestic life, maintain your opinion on all small matters at the point of the bayonet.

Why is a forged note like a whisper? Because it's uttered, but never allowed (aloud).

HUMOUR.—Ill temper puts as many briefs into the lawyer's bag as injustice.

An old man, when dangerously sick, was urged to take the advice of a physician, but objected, saying, "I wish to die a natural death."

A merchant signing the baptismal register of one of his children, inadvertently gave way to the force of habit, and signed himself Sherwin and Co.

The loss of our country by its drinking customs, is not less than £100,000,000 annually. Parliamentary evidence states that "Drunkenness is the very element in which thieving and prostitution live."

WORDS NOT IN DICTIONARIES.—A calculation has been made by a late accurate philologist, that there are 13,000 words in common use in England which do not appear in any dictionary of that language.

Mr MOFFATT.—By a letter from South Africa, bearing date January 9th, we learn the gratifying intelligence, that Mr Moffatt, Mrs Moffat, Mr W. Ashton and Mrs Ashton, and their companions, had reached the Kuruman station in safety and peace.

Mr Staunton, the celebrated chess-player, who beat M. St Amant so triumphantly in Paris, a few months ago, has published a general challenge to play any one for a stake of not less than £100 a-side.

The ordinary punishment at the Boston house of correction is a shower bath! The offender is placed in a very narrow box, with a collar round his neck, and three or four barrels of ice-cold water are poured over him in succession; it is said that it crows and subdues the most refractory.

Mr Charles Dickens is going to Italy at the end of June for a sojourn of some months. He also intends visiting France and Switzerland. We believe we may expect another "Christmas carol," and also a fiction of greater magnitude and more coherent purpose than he has yet accomplished.—*Rumour.*

LUNATICS.—According to a recent parliamentary return there are in this country 269 criminal lunatics, of whom 128 are confined in Bethlehem hospital, London. The rest are confined in various localities throughout the country, four being set down for Leicestershire.

LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER RAILWAY.—Another class of carriages is about to be introduced on this line of railway, superior in accommodation to the present second class carriages, but inferior to the first. The passengers in them will be sheltered from the weather. The carriages now employed in carrying the second-class passengers will in future be employed in carrying a third class of passengers at lower fares.—*Liverpool Times.*

A number of French physicians have decided Mr Dyce Sombre to be in full possession of his faculties, the result of the English commission of lunacy in his case notwithstanding.

It is stated that the Menai bridge will be made the means of transit over the straits, in the projected line of railway from Chester to Holyhead, for the purpose of fully testing its capabilities, and also of ascertaining how far the ordinary traffic over it may, or may not, be impeded by such means.

The British Association for the Promotion of Science will meet in York on the 26th of September, and continue sitting until the 2nd of October.

The King of the French is said to have stated to Mr Peel, brother of our Premier, his intention to visit England this summer.

#### MARRIAGES.

April 24, at Harvey lane chapel, Leicester, Mr JEREMIAH HEEPS, jun., bootmaker, Colton street, to Miss ELIZABETH WOOD, eldest daughter of Mr John Wood, maltster, Burgess street, both of that town.

April 27, at the Countess of Huntingdon's chapel, Ashford, Mr WILLIAM MARSHALL, to Miss SUSANNAH DUNSTER, both of Great Chart.

April 30, at the independent chapel, Stonehouse, by Mr T. Maund, Mr W. WATKINS, to MARIA, eldest daughter of Mr T. SITLINTON, engineer, King Stanley.

April 30, at the baptist chapel, Leeming street, Preston, by Mr John Edwards, Mr NICHOLSON, miller, to Miss MARY WOODHOUSE, both of that town.

April 30, at the baptist chapel, Coate, Oxon, Mr H. DUTTON, London, to Mrs PERRY, Standlake, Oxon, widow of the late Mr George Perry, of the same place.

May 1, at Wycliffe chapel, Commercial road east, by Mr Butteau, Mr HENRY COTTON, of No. 24, New George street, Stepney, to Miss ELIZABETH HORE, of Tor, Tormohain, Devon.

May 1, in the independent chapel, Lymington, by Mr D. Lloyd GEORGE JENVEY, to ANN KIRTON, both of Lymington.

May 1, by license, at Princes street chapel, Norwich, by Mr J. Alexander, Mr CHARLES NEW, minister of the gospel, of Penzance, to MARY PHOEBE, only daughter of Mr James CROSS, of Norwich.

May 1, at Carr's lane meeting, Birmingham, by Mr J. A. James, Mr T. F. SHAW, of Calmore street, to PHOEBE, fourth daughter of Mr John Pritchett, of the Mass House farm, Edgbaston.

May 1, at Norley chapel, Plymouth, by Mr E. Jones, of Oxford, Mr H. D. BOWMAN, to LETITIA CAROLINE, youngest daughter of Lieutenant Kenneth SUTHERLAND, late 2nd R.V.B.

May 2, at Union chapel, Islington, by Mr J. Blackburn, Mr JOHN HALL, independent minister, of Cheshunt, to ANNIE, second daughter of Mr K. J. FORD, of Islington.

May 2, at the baptist meeting house, Luton, by Mr Henry Burgess, Mr RICHARD BARNES, of Breachwood green, baptist minister, to Miss SARAH NEWMAN, of Luton.

May 4, at Argyle chapel, Bath, by Mr W. Jay, Mr H. RUSSELL to Miss SUSANNAH WATTS, both of that city.

May 4, at the baptist chapel, Horsley street, Walworth, by Mr G. Cole, of Church street, Mr EDWIN B. FONIFEX, of Great Dover street, Borough, to ANN, eldest daughter of Mr G. CLARKE, of Hatfield street, Blackfriars road.

May 4, at the baptist chapel, Horsley street, Walworth, by Mr G. Cole, of Church street, Mr JAMES BARNETT, of Great Dover street, Borough, to ELIZABETH, second daughter of Mr G. CLARKE, of Hatfield street, Blackfriars road.

## DEATHS.

April 27, ANNE, the wife of Mr J. G. FULLER, baptist minister, Stogumber, near Taunton. Her end was peace.

April 28, at Hales Owen, in her 68th year, SUSANNAH, wife of Mr Benjamin BARTTELL.

May 1, at Welbeck, the Duchess of PORTLAND.

May 2, at the house of her son, in Marden lane, near Brocco street, Sheffield, aged 95 years, much and deservedly respected, Mrs MARY BROOKS. She was a member of the methodist new connexion; and although so far advanced in years, she retained her faculties and eyesight to the last.

May 2, at Trowbridge, Wilts, in his 70th year, WILLIAM STANCOMBE, Esq.

## Trade and Commerce.

## LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, May 3.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV, cap. 85:—

The Baptist chapel, Golcar, Yorkshire.

The Unitarian chapel, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

FORD, FREDERICK, and BROCKLEHURST, FREDERICK RILEY, Bow lane, City, wholesale stationers.

## BANKRUPTS.

ALDEN, HENRY, Oxford, stationer, May 10, June 14: solicitor, Mr A. J. Baylis, Devonshire square, City.

BARHAM, RICHARD, Emsworth, Hampshire, linen draper, May 14, June 25: solicitors, Messrs Sole and Sole, 68, Aldermanbury.

DIAMOND, JAMES, 1, George street, Tower hill, City, merchant, May 14, June 11: solicitors, Messrs Crosby and Compton, Church court.

GIBBINS, JOSEPH, High street, Marylebone, carpenter, May 10, June 14: solicitor, Mr Kye, Golden square.

GROVER, JOHN, 44, Regent street, Lambeth, stone merchant, May 14, June 11: solicitor, Mr Beetholme, 1, New inn, Strand.

HARLING, JOHN, late of Middop, but now of Thornber Edge, Yorkshire, farmer, May 16, June 6: solicitors, Messrs Cowburn and Norris, Settle, and Mr Carisa, Leeds.

JEVONS, SARAH, Lincoln, shoemaker, May 14, June 11: solicitor, Mr J. T. Billing, 33, King street, Cheapside.

ROBY, JOSEPH HEWITT, Manchester, coffee-house keeper, May 16, June 10: solicitors, Messrs Bridges and Mason, Red Lion square, London, and Mr W. Foster, Manchester.

SILLITOE, AMBROSE, Sudbury, Suffolk, innkeeper, May 14, June 19: solicitors, Messrs Chilton and Co., Chancery lane.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BIRRELL, WILLIAM, East Treton, Kennoway, farmer, May 9, 30.

WRIGHT, DUNCAN M'LEAN, Glasgow, merchant, May 6, 27.

## DIVIDENDS.

J. Harrop, Grasscroft, Yorkshire, clothier; fourth and final div. of 1s. 11d. in the pound, any Monday—M. D. Protheroe, Bristol, West India merchant; first div. of 5d. in the pound, May 8, or any following Wednesday—Weatherby and Co., Manchester, and Holywell, Flintshire, bankers; final div. of 2s. in the pound, May 11, and every following Saturday—W. Webb, Leamington, Warwickshire, hotel keeper; first div. of 7s. 6d. in the pound, May 9, or any following Thursday—O. Pidgeon, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, tobacconist; second div. of 4d. in the pound, May 9, or any following Thursday—S. Barker, Wrockwardine, Shropshire, mercer; first div. of 4s. 3d. in the pound, any Tuesday—M. Hadley, Walsall, druggist; first div. of 4s. 1d. in the pound, any Thursday—C. F. Dewson, Birmingham, victualler; first div. of 7d. in the pound, any Thursday.

## Tuesday, May 7th.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV, cap. 85:—

Methodist chapel, Kendal.

Throop chapel, Throop, Hampshire.

Biddulph catholic chapel, Alwinton, Northumberland.

## BANKRUPTCY ANN. LLED.

CAVE, GEORGE and RICHARD, Banbury, Oxfordshire, drapers.

TAYLOR, HENRY, Bilton, Staffordshire, victualler.

## BANKRUPTS.

ARNOLD, JOHN, jun., Farndon, Chester, and ARNOLD, HENRY, Derby, cheese factors, May 14, June 7: solicitors, Messrs J. and J. Richardson, Burton-upon-Trent; and Messrs Hicks and Co., Bartlett's buildings, London.

BAKER, THOMAS WILLIAM, Woolwich, builder, May 14, June 18: solicitor, Mr John Brooks, 2, Great James street, Bedford row.

BIRD, JOHN, 11, St John's square, Clerkenwell, watch manufacturer, May 15, June 19: solicitors, Messrs Hodson and Gibbs, King's road, Bedford row.

COX, THOMAS, Porchester street, Connaught square, fruiterer, May 21, June 26: solicitors, Messrs Fennell and Kelly, Bedford row.

DAVIS, FRANCIS, Tipton and West Bromwich, Staffordshire, linen draper, May 22, June 12: solicitors, Mr James Christie, Birmingham; Messrs Sale and Worthington, Manchester.

HIND, WILLIAM, Preston, Lancaster, common brewer, May 17, June 12: solicitors, Mr James Fowler, Liverpool; Mr Thomas Kirk, 10, Symond's inn, Chancery lane, London.

HOLMES, EDWARD, 3, King street, Cheapside, warehouseman, May 14, June 14: solicitors, Messrs Pain and Hatherley, Great Marlborough street.

MEREDITH, STEPHEN, Liverpool, linen draper, May 17, June 15: solicitors, Messrs Johnson, Son, and Weatherhall, Temple, London; Messrs C. and C. H. Wood, Manchester.

MOORHOUSE, JOHN, Rotherham, Yorkshire, cattle dealer, May 17, June 11: solicitors, Mr G. Taylor, John street, Bedford row, London; Messrs Badger and Coward, Rotherham; and Mr John Blackburn, Leeds.

NASH, WILLIAM HENRY, and GARDNER, WILLIAM, Exeter, drapers, May 16, June 18: solicitor, Messrs Sole and Sole, Aldermanbury.

NICHOLSON, WILLIAM FOSTER, Warley, Yorkshire, worsted spinner, May 17, June 11: solicitors, Messrs Jaques and Edwards, Ely place, London; Messrs Stocks and Macauley, Halifax; and Messrs Payne, Eddison, and Ford, Leeds.

PEACOCK, HENRY, Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, grocer, May 20, June 7: solicitors, Messrs Amory, Sewell, and Moores, London, and Claytons and Dunn, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

SIMMONDS, HENRY, sen., late of High street, Southwark, and now of Long acre, hop factor, May 14, and June 14: solicitors, Messrs Piercy and Hawkins, Three Crown square, Southwark.

WILLIAMS, CHARLES, 12, Sutton street, York road, formerly of 5, Friday street, Cheapside, furrier, May 14, and June 14: solicitor, Mr Jones, Parliament street.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ALLAN, WILLIAM, and ORME, JAMES, Dundee, music sellers, May 15, and June 5.

MILLER, GEORGE, Glasgow, victualler, May 13, and June 3.

## DIVIDENDS.

Sharp and Clarke, Berners street, Marylebone, upholsterers; on the separate estate of W. D. Clarke first div. of 20s. in the pound, and on the joint estate 5s. 5d. in the pound, any Saturday—T. Maggs, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, upholsterer; final div. of 4d. in the pound, any Saturday—J. Wheatley, Kennington cross, Lambeth, livery-stable keeper; first div. of 2s. 11d. in the pound, any Saturday—T. Curtis, Sutton street, Stepney, shipping butcher; first and final div. of 1s. 10d. in the pound, any Saturday—M. Cooke, Evesham, Worcestershire, hotel keeper; first div. of 4s. 8d. in the pound, any Thursday—S. Cook, Dudley, Worcestershire, draper; first div. of 4s. in the pound, any Thursday—J. H. Perryman, Birmingham, bookseller; first div. of 1s. 5d. in the pound, any Thursday—W. Johnson, Shrewsbury, leather seller; first div. of 1s. 5d. in the pound, any Thursday—D. Smith, late of Mayfield, but now of Oakover, Staffordshire, and

J. B. Smith, cotton spinners; first div. of 7d. in the pound on the joint estate, and first div. under the separate estate of D. Smith of 1s. 10d. in the pound, and first div. of 2d. and 1s. 6d. part of a penny in the pound, any Thursday—C. Powell, Coventry, watch manufacturer; first div. of 4d. in the pound, any Thursday—W. Cooper, Kidderminster, carpet manufacturer; fourth div. of 1s. 7d. in the pound, any Thursday—Fittercroft and Musgrave, Liverpool, grante manufacturers; third div. of 1s. 6d. in the pound, any Wednesday.

## BRITISH FUNDS.

The funds continue steady, but only a limited amount of business is transacting.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99 <sup>1</sup>					
Ditto for Account..	99 <sup>1</sup>					
3 per cent Reduced	98 <sup>1</sup>					
3 <i>4</i> per cts. Reduced	101 <sup>1</sup>					
New 3 <i>4</i> percent..	102 <sup>1</sup>					
Long Annuities..	12 <sup>1</sup>	12 <sup>1</sup>	—	12 <sup>1</sup>	—	—
Bank Stock.....	—	—	196	—	196	—
India Stock.....	291	—	289	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills..	76pm	76pm	75pm	75pm	75pm	75pm
India Bonds .....	—	93pm	92pm	—	—	—

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian .....	114	Mexican .....	35
Belgian .....	104 <sup>1</sup>	Peruvian .....	29
81	81	Portuguese 5 per cents	79
Buenos Ayres .....	38	Ditto 3 per cents .....	—
Columbian .....	15	Russian .....	117
Danish .....	88	Spanish Active .....	25
Dutch 2 per cents .....	61	Ditto Passive .....	6
Ditto 5 per cents .....	100	Ditto Deferred .....	15

## RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	62	London and Brighton ..	45
Birmingham & Gloucester	96	London & Croydon Trunk	19
Blackwall .....	6	London and Greenwich	5
Bristol and Exeter .....	75	Ditto New .....	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Manchester & Birn. ....	56
Eastern Counties .....	13	Manchester and Leeds	111
Edinburgh and Glasgow	66	Midland Counties .....	90
Great North of England ..	100	Ditto Quarter Shares ..	22
Great Western .....	117	North Midland .....	91
Ditto Half .....	74	Ditto New .....	45
Ditto Fifths .....	20	South Eastern and Dover	37
London and Birmingham	233	South Western .....	85
Ditto Quarter Shares ..	28	Ditto New .....	—

## MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, May 6.

There was more firmness in the trade, and the runs were taken off early at fully last Monday's currency. For free foreign there was a moderately good retail demand, at quite as high prices.

Though the arrivals of foreign barley have been large, very little is pressed on the market for sale, and prices are fully maintained.

Oats have met a good demand at 6d. per qr advance, particularly for good Irish and free foreign, and there is an inquiry for this article in bond.

Beans have been cleared off at fully 1s. advance, and foreign are more inquired for at a similar improvement. If any white peas had been here, they would have reached higher prices.

	s.	s.		s.	s.
Wheat, Red New ..	46	to 52			

**TO CHEMISTS and DRUGGISTS.—WANTED**  
Immediately, a first-rate Retail Assistant, not less than Twenty-five years of age. A Dissenter, a member of a Christian church, will be preferred.  
Apply to **Philadelphus Jeyes, Chemist, Northampton.**

**BRITISH PENITENT FEMALE REFUGE,**  
Cambridge Heath, Hackney.

**WANTED, a middle-aged FEMALE, to SUPERINTEND THE NEEDLE-WORK DEPARTMENT.** She must be a person of accredited piety, a member of a Christian church, possessing firmness of character, united with kindness of disposition.

Applications, with Testimonials, to be forwarded to the Secretary, at the Institution, on or before Thursday, the 23rd instant.

**JOHN GLANVILLE, Secretary.**

**METROPOLITAN ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—THE EIGHTH MONTHLY MEETING** will be held at the KING'S HEAD TAVERN, POULTRY, THIS EVENING, WEDNESDAY, the 8th May, at Eight o'clock.

**GEO. SIMMONS, } Hon. Secretaries.**  
**C. S. MIAHL, } Hon. Secretaries.**

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.

**THOSE REPRESENTATIVES to the ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE** whose names or addresses have not been correctly given in any of the lists hitherto published, are requested to send them by post, addressed to the Rev. Dr Cox, Triangle, Hackney.

**F. A. COX,**  
**E. MIAHL,** } Secretaries.  
**J. M. HARE,**

*Guildhall Coffee-house, May 6, 1844.*

**BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY,** For the Abolition of Slavery and the Slave Trade throughout the World.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING** of this Society will take place in EXETER HALL on FRIDAY, 17th May, 1844. The Right Honourable Lord BROUGHAM will preside. The Doors will be open at Ten, and the Chair taken at Eleven o'clock precisely.

**JOHN SCOBLE, Secretary.**

Admission by Tickets only, which may be had at the Society's Office, 27, New Broad street; Thomas Ward and Co., 27, Paternoster row; Hatchard and Son, 187, Piccadilly; James Nisbet and Co., Berners street; Jacob Post, Lower road, Islington; Joseph Sterry and Son, 156, High street, Borough; Jeremiah Clark, 13, Moorgate street; and Charles Gilpin, 3, Bishopsgate street without.

COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

**THE EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING** of the COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY will be held in FINSBURY CHAPEL, on FRIDAY EVENING, the Tenth of MAY. Chair to be taken at Six o'clock precisely, by J. R. MILLIS, Esq., Treasurer of the Society.

**N.B. REPORTS WANTED.** Any friends who can forward to the Congregational Library, free of expense, copies of the Reports of this Society for the years 1837 and 1839, will greatly oblige the Committee.

**ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

**ANNUAL MEETING AT EXETER HALL,** STRAND, LONDON, THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1844.

**CHARLES HINDLEY, Esq., M.P., in the Chair.**

Moved by the Rev. JAMES SHERMAN, seconded by the Rev.

**HENRY RICHARD—**

"That the report now read be received and printed, and that this meeting approves the measures which have been adopted by the Committee for encouraging and assisting Sunday school teachers, trusting they will thereby, under the divine blessing, be excited to a due sense of the importance of their work, and to increased desires and efforts for their own improvement."

Moved by the Rev. W. FRASER, seconded by the Rev. Dr

**MORISON—**

"That this meeting has heard with much pleasure of the success which continues to attend the efforts made to extend sound scriptural instruction in Sunday schools, assured that such instruction is calculated, under the divine blessing, to enlighten the understanding, and sanctify the heart; and that this meeting commands to the consideration of their fellow teachers the importance of seeking the conversion of their scholars as the principal and immediate object of their labours."

Moved by the Rev. W. GROSE, seconded by WILLIAM JONES, Esq.—

"That the following be the Officers and Committee for the ensuing year:—

**PRESIDENT.**  
Right Honourable the Earl Roden, K.P.

**TREASURER.**  
W. B. Gurney, Esq.

**SECRETARIES.**

Messrs W. H. Watson  
P. Jackson

**COMMITTEE.**

Mr W. F. Lloyd, Honorary Membr.

Messrs W. Allaway

H. Althans

D. Benham

W. Bugby

G. W. Burge

R. N. Collins

F. Cuthbertson

J. Davis

J. Mann

J. Eke

Messrs T. M. Green

G. C. Lewis

W. Gover

W. J. Morris

R. Mullens

W. Nathan

J. H. Newman

J. Stoneman

E. Thomas.

Together with the Minute Secretary, and three Representatives from each of the four London Auxiliaries."

Prepared and moved by Rev. J. CARLILE; and seconded by Mr

**CHRISTOPHERSON—**

"That the Committee for last year, having left undecided the question relative to the continued sale of Denominational Catechisms, this meeting of the constituent body hereby recommended the Committee now chosen to discontinue, at the earliest practicable period, the publication and sale, at the Union Depository, of all denominational formularies."

Moved by W. B. GURNEY, Esq., and seconded by Mr W. H.

**WATSON—**

"That the members of the Committee of this Meeting be requested to thank the Rev. Dr. STOUGHTON for his kindness in providing me with a seat in the chair, and for his admirable conduct in the chair."

**BAPTIST CHAPEL, now building in the LEWISHAM ROAD, GREENWICH.**—The ground is free-hold, and the property duly valued in Estates. The sum required to complete the Chapel, with its galleries, is about £1240. Contributions, which are numerous and earnestly requested, may be paid to the Rev. Joseph Anger, Baptist Mission House, Moorgate street, London; Mr John Heath, Bridge-house place, Southwark; Mr Mark Moore, 6, Queen Street place, Southwark bridge, London; Mr W. Holland, Queen's place, Blackheath road, Greenwich; or Rev. Joshua Russell, Melksham, Wilts.

The following contributions are gratefully acknowledged:—

Thos. Pewtress, Esq. £10 10 0 J. Matthews, Esq. £5 0 0

W. B. Gurney, Esq. 10 0 0 Wm. Marshall, Esq. 5 0 0

David W. Wirs, Esq. 10 0 0 Henry Dodson, Esq. 5 0 0

▲ Widow's Mite, Rob. Leonard, Esq. 5 0 0

Greenwich..... 10 0 0 J. L. Benham, Esq. 5 0 0

—Hadlow, Esq. 10 0 0 W. L. Smith, Esq. 5 0 0

John Barnett, Esq. 10 0 0 Mrs and Miss Page, Trowbridge..... 5 0 0

John Bousfield, Esq. 5 5 0 Mr. W. Holland.... 5 0 0

Jacob Russell, Esq. 5 5 0

J. L. Phillips, Esq. 5 0 0

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

SERVICES at the FIFTIETH GENERAL

MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8.

EVENING.—TABERNACLE.—Rev. JAMES HAMILTON, A.M., Minister of the Scotch Church, Regent square, London, to preach.

Service to commence at Six o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 9.

MORNING.—The PUBLIC MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL, in the Strand. The Chair to be taken precisely at Ten o'clock.

by WILLIAM EVANS, Esq., M.P.

EVENING.—An Adjourned Meeting will be held in FINSBURY CHAPEL, Finsbury circus. The Chair to be taken at Six o'clock, by the Rev. JAMES SHERMAN.

LORD'S DAY, MAY 12.

SERMONS will be preached, and collections made, at various places of worship, in London and its Vicinity, as below.

MONDAY, MAY 13.

A Meeting of the Directors of the Society, both Town and Country, will be held at the Mission House, Bloomsbury street, Finsbury. Chair to be taken at Eleven o'clock in the Forenoon.

EVENING.—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered at the following places of worship, to those members and friends of the Society who are Stated Communicants, and who produce tickets from their respective ministers: viz.—

Sion Chapel..... Rev. John Clayton, A.M..... to preside.

Orange Street Chapel Rev. J. J. Freeman..... "

Falcon Square Chapel Rev. Thomas Binney..... "

Surrey Chapel..... Rev. Andrew Reed, D.D..... "

Clarendon Chapel Rev. John Ely, Leeds..... "

St Thomas's Square, Hackney..... Rev. T. W. Jenkyn, D.D..... "

Stockwell Chapel Rev. James Bennett, D.D..... "

Kingsland Chapel Rev. W. H. Stowell, Rotherham..... "

Tottenham Court Rd Chapel..... Rev. John Reynolds, Romsey..... "

Hanover Chapel..... Rev. John Burnet..... "

Peckham..... Rev. George Clayton..... "

Trevor Ch., Chelsea..... Rev. John Fawcett..... "

Services to begin at Six o'clock.

A Collection for the benefit of the Institution will be made at each of the places.

By order of the Directors,

ARTHUR TIDMAN,  
J. J. FREEMAN,  
JOHN ARUNDEL, } Secretaries.

*Mission House, Bloomsbury street,*  
*Finsbury, May 3, 1844.*

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SERMONS TO BE PREACHED

ON LORD'S DAY, MAY 12.

Albany chapel, Regent's park.—Morning, Rev. W. P. LYON;

Evening, Rev. P. THOMSON.

Albany Road chapel, Camberwell.—Morning, Rev. G. ROGERS;

Evening, Rev. J. LYON.

Aldermanbury chapel.—Morning, Rev. S. S. ENGLAND; Afternoon, Rev. Dr JENKYN.

Barbican chapel.—Morning, Rev. A. TIDMAN; Evening, Rev. G. SMITH.

Barking.—Morning and Evening, Rev. E. STALLYBRASS.

Bethnal green.—Morning, Rev. J. VINEY; Evening, Rev. T. W. AVELING.

Bishopsgate chapel.—Morning, Rev. R. REDPATH; Evening, Rev. R. KNILL.

Chapel street, Soho.—Morning, Rev. J. ROBINSON; Evening, Rev. H. TOWNLEY.

Clapham.—Morning, Rev. J. HILL; Evening, Rev. J. BLACKBURN.

Clapton chapel.—Morning, Rev. A. WELLS; Evening, Rev. J. J. FREEMAN.

Clarendon chapel.—Morning, Rev. W. H. STOWELL; Evening, Rev. J. HILL.

Coverdale chapel, Limehouse.—Morning, Rev. H. S. SEABORN;

Evening, Rev. J. P. DORSON.

Craven chapel.—Morning, Rev. P. THOMSON; Evening, Rev. J. ROBERTS.

Enfield.—Morning and Evening, Rev. J. C. HARRISON.

Enfield Highway.—Morning and Evening, Rev. T. TIMPSON.

Esher street.—Morning, Rev. J. MIRAMS; Evening, Rev. H. S. SEABORN.

Falcon Square chapel.—Morning, Rev. J. A. SCHURMAN; Evening, Rev. W. CAMPBELL.

Finchley.—Morning, Rev. C. GILBERT; Evening, Rev. H. BIRCH.

Finsbury chapel.—Morning, Rev. A. FLETCHER; Evening, Rev. J. R. LYON.

Greenwich, Maize hill.—Morning, Rev. E. PROUT; Evening, Rev. J. VINEY.

Greenwich, Tabernacle.—Morning, Rev. J. P. DOBSON; Evening, Rev. J. SIBREE.

Hackney, St Thomas's square—Morning, Rev. J. ROBERTS;

Evening, Rev. S. T. THODEY.

Hare Court chapel—Morning, Rev. J. ROWLAND; Evening, Rev. W. P. LYON.

Hammersmith, Ebenezer chapel—Morning, Rev. G. GOGERLEY;

Evening, Rev. B. S. HOLLIS.

Hammersmith, George yard—Morning, Rev. B. S. HOLLIS;